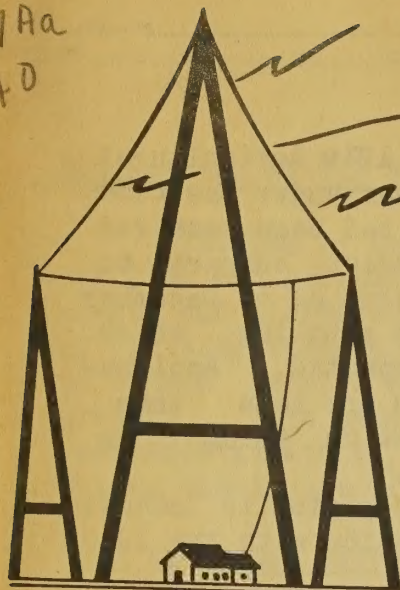


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FLASHES

FACTS FOR

Committeemen



Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I.

JANUARY 1940

NO. 1

With this first issue of "AAA Flashes", a monthly publication for committeemen in the East Central Region, it is appropriate to take stock of accomplishments under the 1939 Program and to look ahead to 1940.

During 1939, important contributions were made toward conserving soil, maintaining farm income, and improving living conditions in the East Central Region. On the part of committeemen, this meant helpful contacts with farmers, explaining the program and adapting it to the individual needs of farms in the community. On the part of farmers, it signified a cooperative effort in following sound systems of farming pointed toward desired national objectives.

Participation under the 1939 Program compared favorably with that of 1938, except in the flue-cured tobacco area. More farmers of the Region took part in the program in 1939 than in any previous year. Greater participation is expected this year. More emphasis will be placed on needed soil-building practices not normally used on the farm, and efforts will be continued to keep supplies in line with available market outlets. Further progress is hoped for in dealing with the problem of farm income.

As in the past, the responsibility for administering the program locally rests with committeemen. In assuming this responsibility, you have the opportunity for great service to your fellow farmers. We know it will be utilized in promoting the best interests of a united agriculture and the welfare of our Nation as a whole.

W. G. Finn,
Director, East Central Division.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Progress Report

Work of handling applications under the 1939 Agricultural Conservation Program is well ahead of that last year under the 1938 Program. On January 5, 1940 162,927 applications had been received by the Examining Section from all states in the Region, compared to 19,754 on January 5, 1939. Reports from State Offices as of December 29, showed 216,494 1939 applications received from counties, which is approximately 35 percent of the total number expected. Applications suspended at State Offices and in Washington are less than one-half the number suspended last year, the reduction being from 11.8 percent for 1938 to 5.7 percent for 1939.

All county offices should shortly be in a position to concentrate on Farm Plans and other activities in connection with the 1940 Program.

1940 Farm Plans

County and community committeemen and qualified office workers will begin contacting producers in January concerning their 1940 Farm Plans. The Farm Plan will help the producer arrange his farming operations so that he may cooperate fully in the 1940 Program. The form will give the producer his acreage allotments and normal yields, his farm payment that can be earned, and his soil-building goal. A program of needed soil-building practices adapted to the particular farm and sufficient to meet the soil-building goal will be worked out with each farm operator. It will be necessary for each producer to execute a Farm Plan prior to the closing date in order to be eligible for payment.

Forestry

Each farm may earn as much as \$30 for planting forest trees under the 1940 Program. This payment may be earned in addition to all other payments. The payment for planting forest trees is \$7.50 per acre.

A total of only 5,200 acres were planted to trees under the 1938 Program and plantings in 1940 should far exceed this figure. Information regarding varieties to plant, spacing, methods of planting, etc., may be obtained at the county office.

AAA Radio Broadcasts

Arrangements have been made for a series of 15 broadcasts to be given each Tuesday over the National Farm and Home Hour by AAA Committeemen from various parts of the United States, beginning January 16 and continuing through April 23, 1940. Committeemen from Tennessee will discuss "lime and phosphate" on January 30, and North Carolina Committeemen will discuss "cover and green manure crops" on March 12. Neighbors and friends should have these broadcasts called to their attention.

County Agricultural Buildings

Under the provisions of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act 35 counties in North Carolina have built County Agricultural Buildings.

These modern buildings, which furnish housing facilities for County Agricultural Conservation Associations and other agricultural agencies, greatly aid in facilitating the work.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Taking Time By The Forelock

Judging by the many orders received by the East Central Division for lime and phosphate as grants-of-aid under the 1940 Program, county agents and committeemen in certain counties are doing a first-class job of getting farmers to apply these materials early in the year so as to obtain results during the principal growing seasons for legumes and grasses. This procedure is especially commendable for the reason that increased growth of these crops means increased conservation of soil. Making timely use of each year's opportunities is important.

Soil and Human Resources

Committeemen realize that intelligent and continuous effort is required to keep land from losing fertility at a rate faster than it can be restored. The loss of soil fertility adversely affects the welfare of all citizens.

The Secretary of Agriculture said recently, "Soil conservation is inseparable from the conservation of human values. Exploitation of soil goes hand in hand with the exploitation of human beings. Our basic wealth is soil and human beings and we must see to it that our financial wealth is so used as to increase that basic wealth."

Committeemen Assume Responsibility

One of the biggest jobs to be done is that of educating the General Public regarding the AAA Program. Committeemen feel keenly their responsibility in this matter and are assuming it by answering many questions asked by businessmen, neighboring farmers, and others and by enlisting the aid of available agencies in getting the job done. In many counties committeemen are arranging for farmer-businessmen meetings during which the various phases of farm problems are openly discussed. Such meetings have been effective by way of clearing up disturbing questions relating to the program and in emphasizing the fundamental nature of the work.

Administrative Organization

The chart appearing on the last page of this issue is intended to give all committeemen a better working knowledge of the administrative organization and functioning of the AAA. Although the underlying principles and objectives of each unit are the same, it is important that every committeeman have a clear understanding of his responsibility as a member of the organization in order to maintain efficient and well coordinated activities.

Each committeeman should note the total number of farms in his State and the number of local committeemen elected by the farmers to represent them in the operation of the program. Here we have an organization linking together the efforts of the individual farmer and his Government in dealing with a National Farm Problem.

SECRETARY H. A. WALLACE

ADMINISTRATOR R. M. EVANS

WESTERN
13 STATES
N. E. Dodd

NORTH CENTRAL
10 STATES
Claude R. Wickard

EAST CENTRAL
7 STATES
W. G. Finn

NORTHEAST
9 STATES
A. W. Manchester

SOUTHERN
9 STATES
I. W. Duggan

DELAWARE
COMMITTEE
R. O. Steitzer

MARYLAND
COMMITTEE
R. O. Steitzer

N. CAROLINA
COMMITTEE
E. Y. Floyd

VIRGINIA
COMMITTEE
S. K. Cassell

W. VIRGINIA
COMMITTEE
C. E. Stockdale

KENTUCKY
COMMITTEE
O. M. Farrington

TENNESSEE
COMMITTEE
F. W. Colby

3 Counties
Committee
County Agent

23 Counties
Committee
County Agent

100 Counties
Committee
County Agent

99 Counties
Committee
County Agent

54 Counties
Committee
County Agent

120 Counties
Committee
County Agent

95 Counties
Committee
County Agent

25
Community
Committees

121
Community
Committees

844
Community
Committees

376
Community
Committees

215
Community
Committees

601
Community
Committees

454
Community
Committees

140
Committeemen

720
Committeemen

4,700
Committeemen

2,400
Committeemen

1,350
Committeemen

3,600
Committeemen

2,740
Committeemen

9,000
Farms

40,000
Farms

254,000
Farms

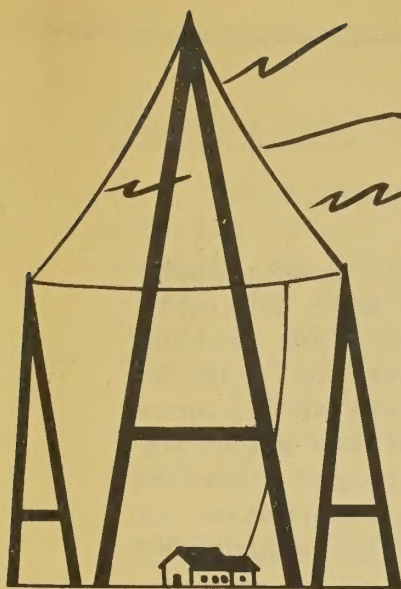
144,000
Farms

81,000
Farms

201,000
Farms

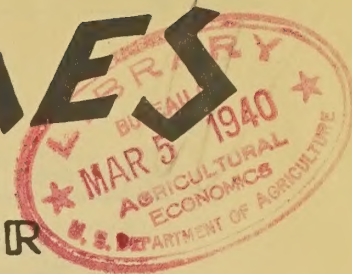
200,000
Farms





FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen



Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
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VOLUME I.

FEBRUARY 1940

NO. 2

Significant views on where our soil fertility has been going and what farmers can do about it were given by Administrator R. M. Evans in his address at the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation meeting in Louisville, January 11. Here are some of the highlights:

"Land is not inexhaustible. It has taken Americans a long time to realize this fact. We have taken soil fertility for granted, have destroyed and sold it off as though it were as inexhaustible as the air. We financed the building of America by trading soil capital for Old World money capital. It was a costly trade. We did not realize this until it hit our pocketbooks. Now we have examples -- plenty of them -- of what a farm can be like when the supply of soil fertility has run too low. Within a couple of generations many farms have passed through the destructive cycle from virgin soil to ruin.

"For the United States as a whole, we have lost more than one-fourth of our soil covering. We have been living on our soil principal and on all too many farms have come to the end of it. For 100 years we have put the Nation's soil fertility on the market auction block and sold it off most of the time at bargain prices. As a Nation we now realize that the exploitation of agriculture must end. The era of conservation is here.

"If every farm in this country were worked in accordance with soil-conservation principles, the surplus problem would be licked. Farmers then would value their soil fertility too highly to dump it onto the market at surplus prices. But farming in this country has not yet reached that goal. In the meantime, we have to have special tools that will help the farmer exert an influence upon his market.

"In the long run, the best place for surpluses is in the soil. When surpluses are stored in the soil, the farmer has them where he needs them when he wants them. Then they are not on the market where they keep his prices down. Furthermore, when prices are on a longtime rise, the farmer is going to get more benefit from the rise when he has these surpluses in his own soil. These are advantages that will come when farmers are unanimous in doing their job in a *soil-minded* instead of a *soil-mining* way."

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Notebooks for Committeemen

Triple-A notebooks will be furnished to all committeemen early in March. These loose-leaf notebooks will make available in brief, concise form information concerning the farm problem and the provisions of the AAA program. The notebook will be pocket size, approximately 4" by 8", and will serve as a source of information for talks and for answering inquiries regarding different phases of the program. Pages will be grouped according to general subject matter. As new and additional information is compiled, it is planned that supplemental pages will be provided for the notebook.

Payments and Farm Plans

As of February 7, 1940, checks had been issued on a total of 161,875 ACP applications for 1939 in the East Central Region. By States, the numbers paid by the above date were: Delaware, 4,955, Maryland, 12,701, North Carolina, 15,645, Tennessee, 16,799, West Virginia, 19,497, Virginia, 31,669, and Kentucky, 60,609.

As 1939 payments are delivered, committeemen and other qualified workers help farmers prepare their 1940 Farm Plans. The soil-building needs of the individual farm are discussed with the producer. Requests for grant-of-aid materials also are filed at this time.

To be eligible for payment under the 1940 Program, it will be necessary for producers to file a Farm Plan on or before April 15, 1940.

Lime for Health

Lime plays a very important part in everyday life, County Agent H. B. Thomas stated in his report on the AAA lime project in Raleigh County, West Virginia. To enjoy health and long life it is necessary to consume a certain amount of calcium in our daily diet. One source of calcium is limestone. In applying a total of over 6,000 tons of liming materials in 1939, Raleigh County farmers, according to Mr. Thomas, have rendered a service to the consuming public that should be shouted from the housetops. Only 56 tons of liming materials were used in the county in 1936.

Send in Questions

The purpose of "AAA Flashes" is to provide committeemen and other field workers in the East Central Region with current material on the farm program which they may pass on to farmers and businessmen in their communities.

The publication will be much more effective if committeemen will send in questions and suggestions for use in future issues. These should be addressed to your State AAA Office.

Tennessee Committeemen Broadcast

On January 30, F. E. Roberts of Gibson County, Tom True of Robertson County, and Ed M. Sivils of Gibson County, all county committeemen from Tennessee, took part in a national broadcast during the National Farm and Home Hour on "The Use of Lime and Phosphate to Improve Soil". This program was one of a series, "Today's Soil for Today and Tomorrow".

Three North Carolina committeemen will discuss "Cover and Green-Manure Crops" on the National Farm and Home Hour on Tuesday, March 12.

Maryland Dairymen Meet

Lafayette Patterson of the AAA was the principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Elkton and Cecilton locals of the Interstate Milk Producers' Association at Chesapeake City, Maryland, on January 23. The relationship of agricultural conservation and marketing agreement programs to dairymen was discussed. Dairymen are benefiting from AAA Programs by the grain-price-stabilizing effects of the Ever-Normal Granary and the use of conservation practices which maintain soil fertility and lower production costs.

Certificates of Recognition

Eleven counties of North Carolina in which 90 percent or more of the maximum county soil-building payment was earned in 1938 have been given Certificates of Recognition. Presentation of the certificates on behalf of the State Committee was made by Dean I.O. Schaub, of North Carolina State College. Counties which received certificates are: Anson, Tyrrell, Hyde, Stanly, McDowell, Perquimans, Scotland, Union, Hoke, Cabarrus, and Mecklenburg.

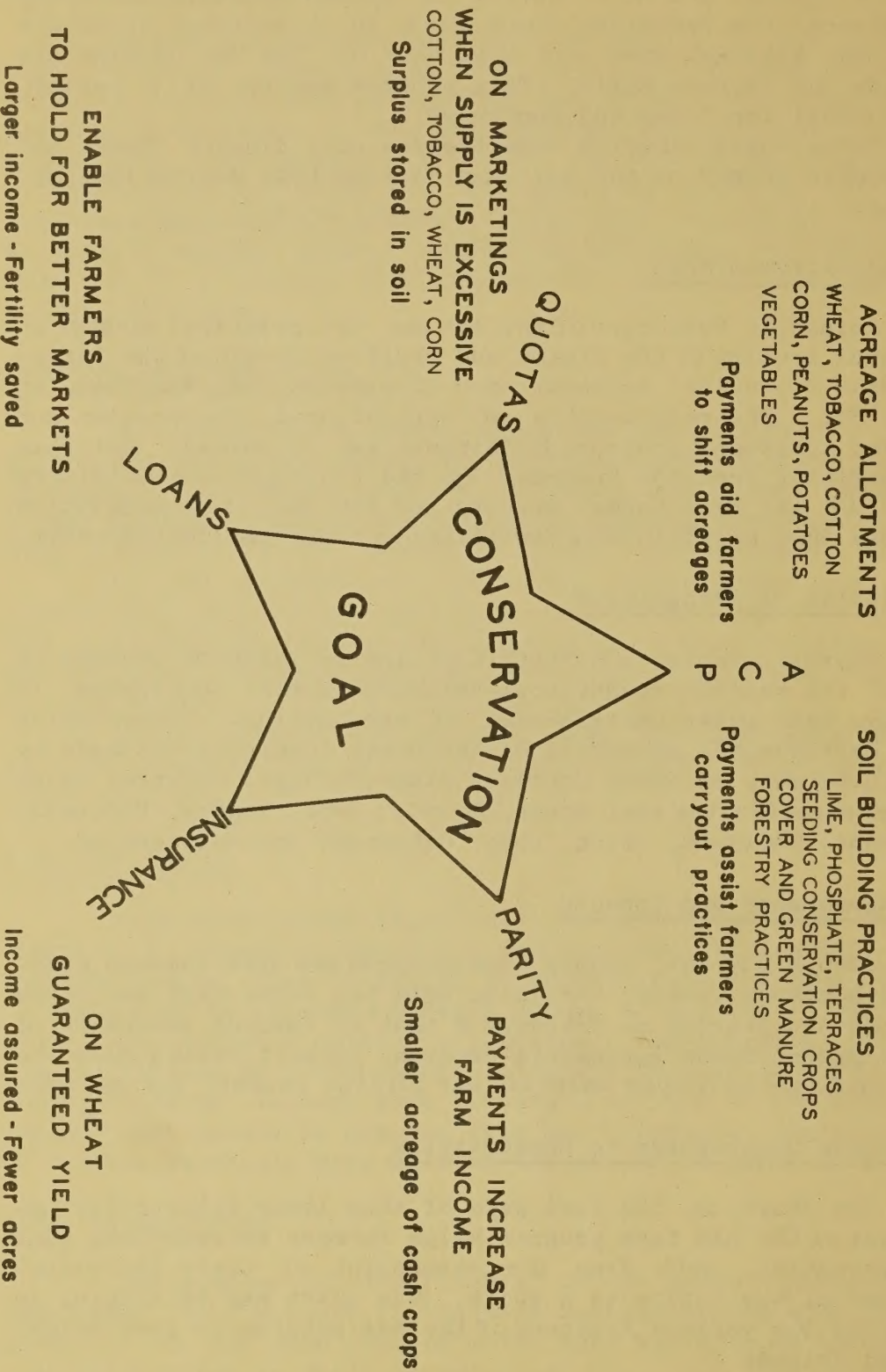
Trade Agreements and Tobacco

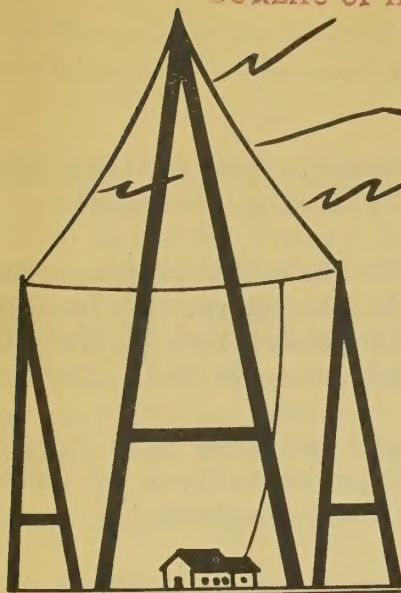
John E. Burnett, County Committeeman and dark-tobacco grower, of Appomattox County, Virginia, told the House Ways and Means Committee at a hearing on February 2 that he favored extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Program. Burnett stated that the Trade Program has helped maintain our foreign markets for tobacco.

AAA Program Contributes to Conservation

The chart on the last page of this issue illustrates how each part of the AAA farm program helps farmers to reach the goal of conservation, both from the standpoint of their individual farms and of the Nation as a whole. The chart may be helpful in explaining the various features of the AAA program to your neighbors and friends.

THE AAA PROGRAM CONTRIBUTES TO CONSERVATION

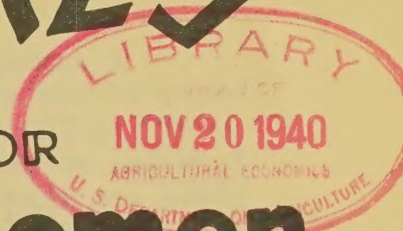




FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen

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AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U.S.D.A. • WASHINGTON, D.C.



VOLUME I.

MARCH 1940

NO. 3

REPORTING THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Many committeemen who were at the East Central Region Conference held in Raleigh, North Carolina, February 21, 22, and 23, said it was the best farm program meeting they ever attended. It is regretted that all committeemen of the Region could not have attended this meeting. For the information of all committeemen, this issue of Flashes is devoted to summaries of talks and committee recommendations at the conference.

The National Program

The National farm program had its first full year of operation in 1939, Administrator R. M. Evans told the conference. The Act was passed so late in 1938 that all of its provisions could not be fully used that year. But this year every single mechanism of the program -- allotments, loans, quotas, insurance, export programs, and all the rest -- swung into operation, said Mr. Evans.

Nearly six million farmers used the AAA program last year as a means of cooperatively conserving the Nation's soil and improving their income. As a result, conservation practices were carried out by farmers operating 80 percent of the cropland of the country. Mr. Evans stressed the fact that responsibility for local administration rests squarely upon all county and community committeemen. He urged more educational work particularly in tobacco regions and the development of better understanding of the farm program on the part of businessmen.

Tobacco Situation

In discussing the tobacco situation, Assistant Administrator J. B. Hutson pointed out that if the full size of the 1939 flue-cured and Burley crops had been known when the 1940 marketing quotas were determined, the 1940 acreage allotments for these types would have been from 10 to 15 percent smaller than those established. Both the flue-cured and Burley allotments were based on preliminary estimates of the 1939 crops which were found to be considerably below the actual harvest. In view of this, unless growers plant well below their 1940 allotments, it is likely that the 1941 allotments will have to be still further reduced, Mr. Hutson said.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

A summary by Charles D. Lewis, Assistant Director, East Central Division, at the close of the conference contained the following statements:

Keynote. - Mr. Evans, the Administrator, reminded us that the Congress has given you the finest machine that has ever been built for farmers. You have run it awhile and found it good. The keynote of this conference is that farmers themselves must learn to understand, adjust, and care for this great machine.

Representative State and county committeemen and field men from this Region have told us how they are operating this machine. Representatives of other Regions have given us a birdseye view of its use in their Regions.

Program Objectives. - We are all familiar with the goals and objectives of the National Farm Program -- namely, that we conserve our land resources; that we secure a fair income for the farmer, and that we assure the consumer adequate supplies of food and fibers.

Consumer Needs Met. - You have been told, and you know from your own experience that no great industry in this country produces without regard for demand. Adequate supplies of food and fibers seem to be the one thing that producers and consumers alike can agree on. It has always been one of the greatest compliments to the farmer that he is not only willing but anxious that the consumer have everything the soil can supply. In fact, the farmer has frequently let his generous streak lead him virtually to destruction.

Old Goal - New Clothing. - In order that we may crystallize the things which have been discussed throughout this conference I propose another goal. A goal which I would repeat must be reached if the objectives of the National Farm Program are to be reached. This old goal in new clothing is that every farmer in the East Central Region understand and take part in the 1940 Program, and that every other citizen of the East Central Region be informed with respect to (1) the national farm problem; (2) the objectives of the National Farm Program; and (3) the accomplishments of the National Farm Program.

Will Not "Just Happen". - Here I would like to point out that these things will not "just happen"; that you cannot leave it to others; that you must carefully organize it and patiently and persistently pursue it in order that it may be done; that a few people cannot do it; that every State, county, and community committeeman in the East Central Region will have to work at it -- tirelessly, patiently, enthusiastically.

Conclusion. - In closing, I should like to say that it is my judgment that the National Farm Program will stand or fall depending on whether you committeemen and the other thousands like you do a really good job in reaching this goal which I have attempted to outline.

NOTE: Mr. Lewis, who succeeded F. W. Darner, has been with the AAA since 1935 and was formerly Assistant Director of the Northeast Division. Before coming to the AAA he taught vocational agriculture in High School and served as County Agent in Virginia and Connecticut.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Informing The Businessman

Elmer F. Kruse, Chairman of the Ohio State Committee, and James E. Walker, Chairman of the Pennsylvania State Committee, addressed the conference and advocated farmer-businessmen meetings in which farmers are the active hosts and leaders. Mr. Kruse suggested that discussion at such meetings should be directed toward increased value of crops resulting from the stabilizing features of the farm program and other benefits of conservation, both from the standpoint of the businessman and the farmer.

Committeemen Reporting

County committeemen who attended the Regional Conference are now discussing the conference recommendations at meetings in their own and adjoining counties.

Cotton Situation

In a discussion of the cotton situation, E. D. White, Commodity Credit Corporation, stated that the value of the United States cotton crop has been increased from \$464,000,000 in 1932 to an average of \$885,000,000, including Government payments, for the years 1933 to 1939, inclusive. More than 95 percent of all cotton farmers participated in the farm program last year.

Wheat Situation

N. E. Dodd, Director of the Western Division of the AAA, described western wheat growing and discussed wheat problems at the conference. For wheat farmers, 1939 was the first year that the AAA farm program operated in all its phases, said Mr. Dodd. With the assistance of the AAA farm program cooperating farmers can come reasonably close to getting a fair return from their crop, he said.

Cover Crops

In accordance with a recommendation of the Regional Conference, Agronomy Specialists and AAA representatives from each of the States will meet in Washington sometime in April to discuss plans for expanding the acreage of winter cover crops throughout the East Central Region.

Lest We Forget

All committeemen should keep in mind that April 15 is the final date for filing 1940 farm plans.

SUMMARIES OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

1940 Program of Work

The committee recommended that:

- (1) All eligible farmers be notified that March 30, 1940, is final date for signing 1939 ACP applications. Necessary steps should be taken to complete the signing of 1940 farm plans by April 15.
- (2) Performance checking of commodities affected by marketing quotas begin as soon as plantings are completed.
- (3) State recommendations on 1941 program be submitted by June 15, 1940.
- (4) Each county work out definite plans for a farmer-businessman meeting.
- (5) Upon recommendations of the State Committee, counties having done outstanding work receive a certificate of merit.
- (6) Movement of 1940 parity applications for farms begin within 30 days after completion of performance checking for the affected commodity on such farms.

A. A. Deakins, Chairman.

Soil-Building Goals

The committee reported:

County soil-building goals are helpful in obtaining more conservation under the 1940 program by encouraging the adoption of practices other than routine practices, bringing about more contacts between committeemen and producers, encouraging use of limestone and phosphate, and creating more interest in the program.

Goals should be reasonable and practicable, and in establishing them, careful consideration should be given to the needs of the county and the recommendations of the Extension Service.

Information on the farm plans should aid in reaching county goals and may be used to insure the availability of needed soil-building materials, and as a source of information for local news items.

H. S. Vanderwort, Chairman

1940 Performance Procedure

The committee recommended that:

- (1) Changes in performance procedure be limited to those which will result in simplification of the work and efficiency of operation.
- (2) Every effort should be made to keep the expense of checking performance at a minimum.
- (3) Rechecking of farms should be held to a minimum.
- (4) Supervisors should be carefully selected, thoroughly trained, and rigidly spotchecked.
- (5) Each State should make a careful spot check in the county office to determine the accuracy of the work of transferring the data from the local supervisor's report to the farm summary and application for payment.

M. D. Royse, Chairman.

Marketing Quotas

The committee recommended that:

- (1) In those cases where a producer is subject to payment of a cotton penalty, a toll count be made at the beginning of the picking season.
- (2) Court action in connection with violators of the provisions of the Act relating to cotton marketing quotas be speeded up.
- (3) Each farmer having excess tobacco in 1940 be required to pay a penalty upon that proportion of each lot of tobacco marketed from his farm which the tobacco in excess of the farm quota is of the total amount available for marketing from the farm.
- (4) Proposed amendments in connection with tobacco referendums be approved.
- (5) If as much as one-half of the tobacco allotment is planted on a farm in 1940, the allotment for 1941 and later years should be determined just as though the planted acreage was equal to the 1940 allotted acreage.

G. T. Scott, Chairman.

County Office Organization and Housing

The committee recommended that:

- (1) The county office should portray the same efficiency that is found in any well run private business.
- (2) There should be in the county office at all times some designated person who can talk farm language to a farmer, and discuss with him his individual farm problems.

The injection of partisan politics either national, sectional, or local can only result in serious impairment to the program as a whole.

- (3) All States should consider seriously the progress that has been made by the State of North Carolina in building Agricultural Buildings.

In any event and however housed, the AAA and the county agent should be in close proximity and in the closest cooperation.

W. P. Stuart, Chairman.

1941 Program

The committee recommended that:

- (1) Efforts be made to better acquaint growers with the provisions of the 1940 program.
- (2) State offices prepare a questionnaire for the use of county committees in assembling recommendations for the 1941 program.
- (3) It is recognized that all recommendations received cannot be put into effect, and county committees should acknowledge all recommendations received from producers, and the State Committee should acknowledge all recommendations received from the county.

- (4) The 1941 program offers special opportunity for a cover crop program. A thorough study of the problem should be made and AAA representatives and Extension Agronomists should cooperate in drawing up a winter cover crop program for the Region.

H. H. Nuttle, Chairman.



FLASHES

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FACTS FOR Committeemen

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AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
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VOLUME I.

APRIL 1940

NO. 4

Grant-of-Aid Materials

Superphosphate

Grants of materials in place of cash AAA payments became a part of the AAA program in 1937 when about 25,000 tons of concentrated superphosphate were obtained from the TVA and distributed to producers in four East Central States. This year, more than 100,000 tons of concentrated material will be furnished to producers in all States of the Region.

Several thousand tons of 20 per cent superphosphate are also being supplied in order to supplement the supply of triple superphosphate which alone fell far short of 1940 requirements.

Limestone

In 1938 about 20,000 tons of liming materials were furnished as grant-of-aid to producers in nine counties within the Region. In 1939 the area was expanded materially, and this year, these materials are being made available in 360 East Central counties. Obviously, many sources of supply are required in order to meet local needs in various parts of the Region.

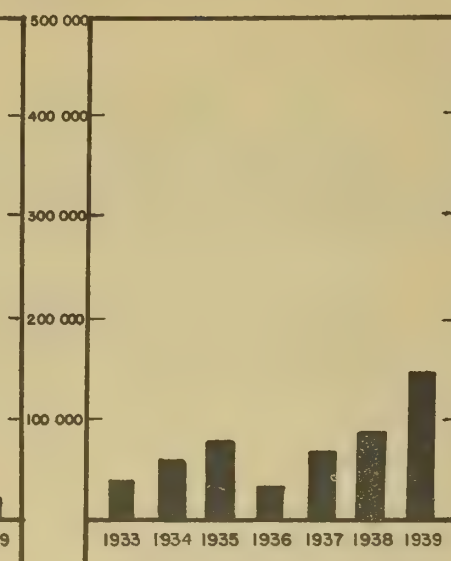
Seeds

In 1938, hairy vetch and Austrian winter pea seed were furnished to producers in four counties in North Carolina, on an experimental basis, as a grant-of-aid project. In 1939, it was expected that the winter legume project would be extended, but since the AAA was unable to procure, at reasonable prices, the quantity of seed needed to carry out the project, it had to be abandoned. Under an emergency project the AAA furnished legume and grass seed to producers in Maryland and Delaware for use in areas where original seedings in 1939 had been destroyed by drought. In 1940 arrangements have been made whereby Austrian winter pea seed acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation from farmers in the Pacific Northwest will become available to the AAA. These seed will be made available for fall seedings to producers in North Carolina and in certain counties in Tennessee and Virginia where such seedings are adapted.

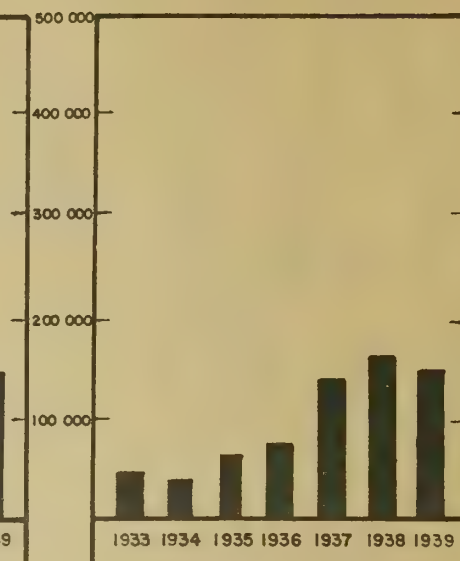
LIMESTONE USED BY STATES 1933-39 (TONS)



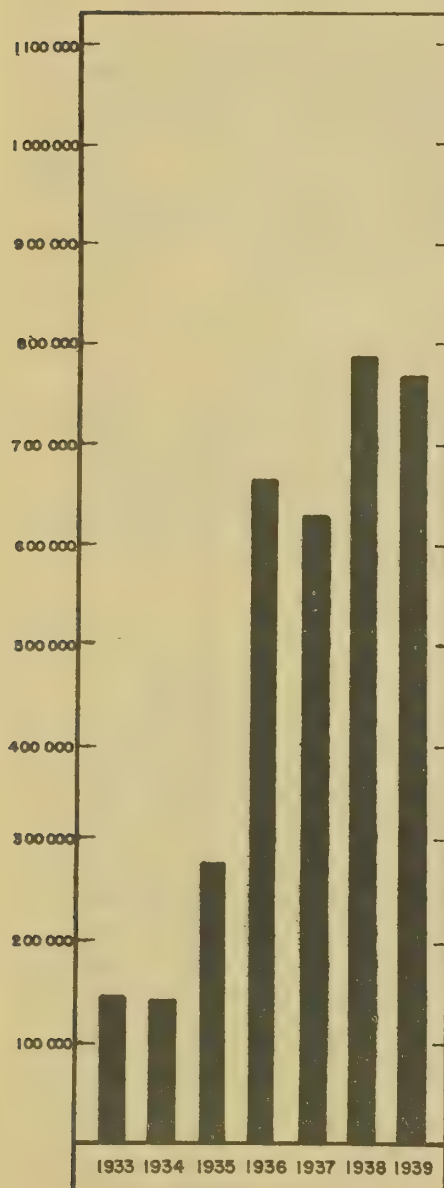
DELAWARE



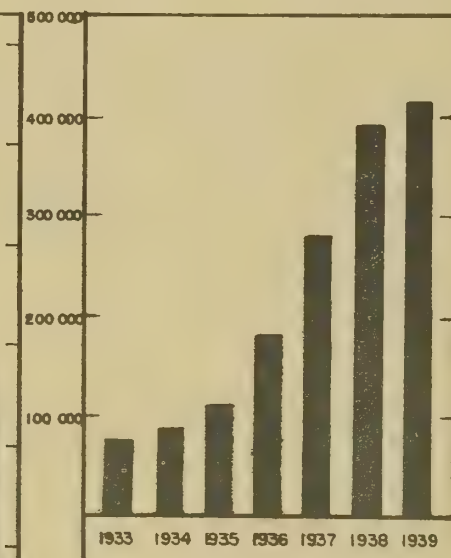
NORTH CAROLINA



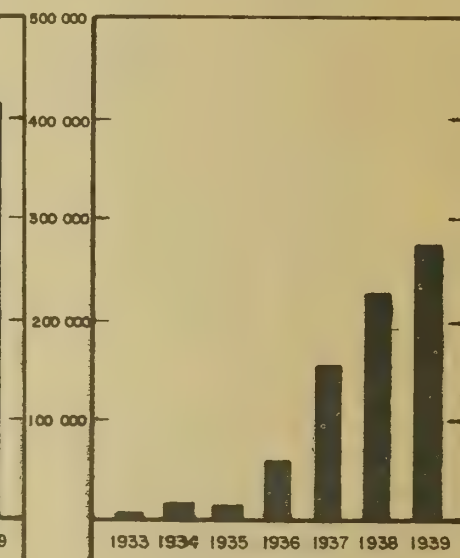
MARYLAND



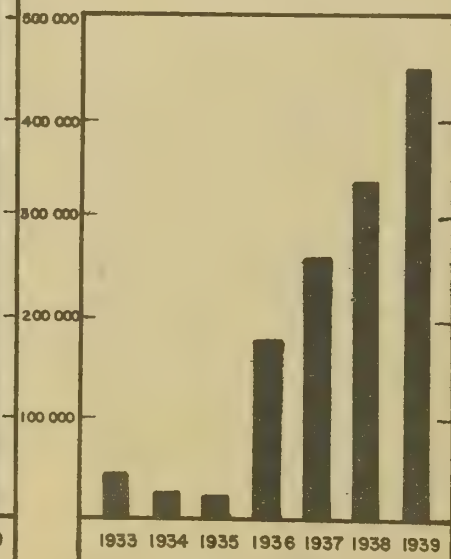
KENTUCKY



VIRGINIA



WEST VIRGINIA



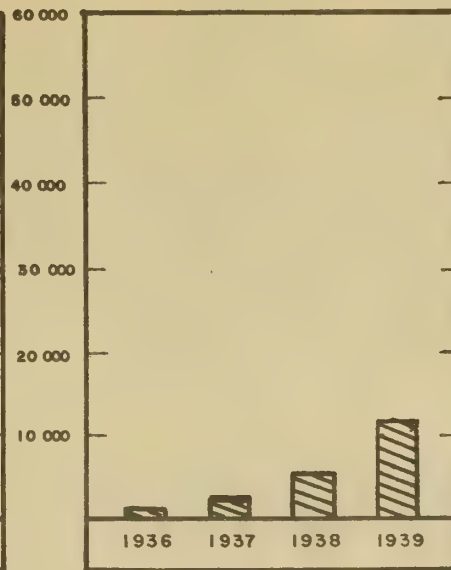
TENNESSEE

IN 1936, THE FIRST YEAR OF THE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM, FARMERS IN THE EAST CENTRAL REGION USED THREE TIMES AS MUCH LIMING MATERIAL AS IN 1933; IN 1939 THEY USED SIX TIMES AS MUCH. NOTWITHSTANDING THIS PROGRESS, THERE WERE STILL MORE THAN THREE-FOURTHS OF THE FARMS IN THE REGION WHICH DID NOT REPORT THE USE OF LIME IN 1939.

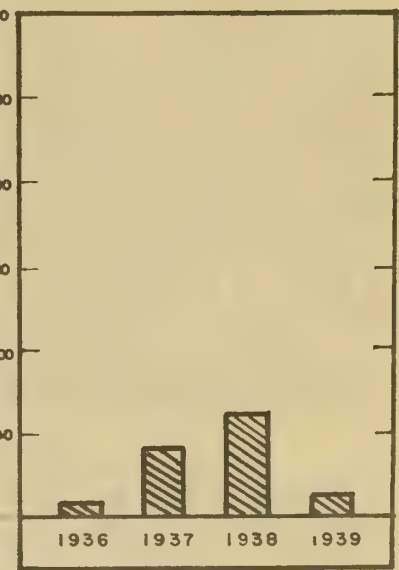
ACP PHOSPHATE USED BY STATES 1936-39 (TONS)



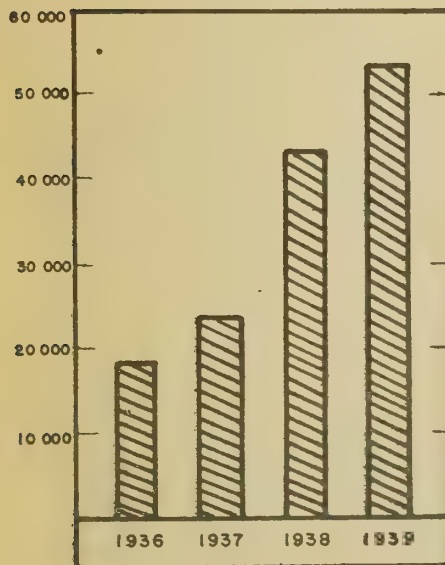
DELAWARE



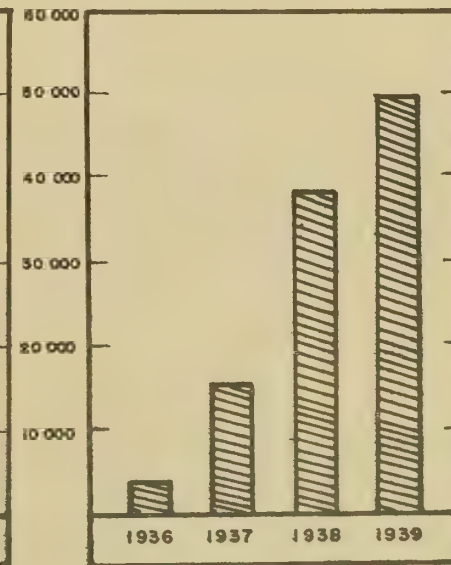
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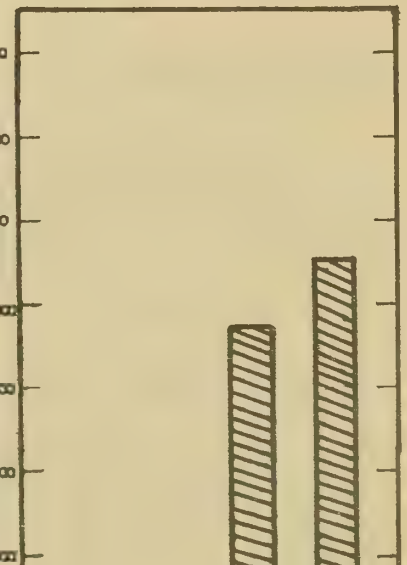
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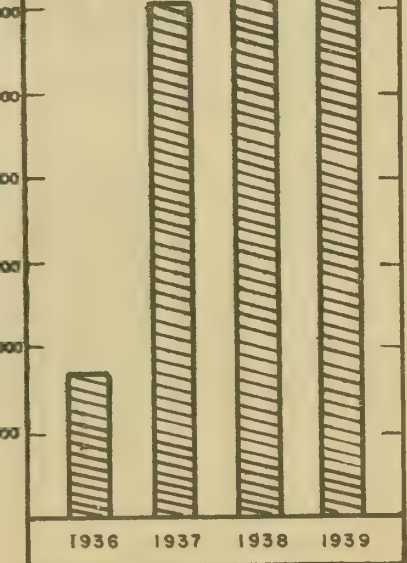
VIRGINIA



WEST VIRGINIA



TENNESSEE



KENTUCKY

BEFORE 1936 THE QUANTITY OF SUPERPHOSPHATE USED ON CONSERVING CROPS AND PASTURE WAS NEGLIGIBLE, ALTHOUGH FERTILIZATION OF DEPLETING CROPS HAS LONG BEEN COMMON PRACTICE. EVEN THOUGH THE STATES IN THE REGION SHOW AN INCREASE FROM 50,000 TONS IN 1936 TO 275,000 TONS IN 1939 (EQUIVALENT 16% MATERIAL) UNDER THE PROGRAM, LESS THAN ONE-FIFTH OF THE REPORTING FARMS SHOWED A PHOSPHATE PRACTICE IN 1939.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Calomel and Sody

Quint D. Wilson, a County Committeeman from Kentucky who attended the Raleigh Conference, compared the use of limestone and phosphate to his father's use of calomel and soda in treating the ills of his patients. "My father was a country doctor of the old school," stated Mr. Wilson, "and when a patient needed a dose of calomel, he filled the capsule about half way with soda. The soda, my father found, counteracted the acid in the patient's stomach so the calomel could work. When soil is sick because of a lack of phosphate, liming materials should be applied with the phosphate in order that soil will be in a healthy condition for plant growth."

Canadian Tobacco Problem

Canadian growers of flue-cured tobacco are being urged to make a 30 to 35 per cent acreage reduction from 1939 allotments, according to reports from Ottawa. Some 36,500,000 pounds remain unsold from the record 1939 crop of about 82,000,000 pounds, for which arrangements were made whereby growers may obtain advances up to 35 per cent of the appraised value of the tobacco.

"Briefly Speaking"

The attention of committeemen is called to the new form of the AAA publication, Briefly Speaking. Each issue of this publication is devoted to topics of interest to committeemen. Issue No. 13, dated March 25, 1940, deals with Farmer-Businessmen relationships. If you do not receive this publication, you should arrange for your county office to request it from the State office.

Cotton Mattress Project

This project, which aims to make surplus cotton available to low-income families for mattress-making and to help reduce the cotton surplus, was initiated in February in 60 counties of the principal cotton-producing States. It has since been extended to a total of 207 counties in 15 States, including 32 counties in Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. To date about 4,000 bales of cotton have been ordered by participating counties, which is sufficient to make about 40,000 mattresses.

Lest We Forget

- April 30 - Address by Secretary Wallace closing AAA broadcasts on "Today's Soil for Today and Tomorrow," over National Farm and Home Hour, NBC. Tune in an hour earlier than formerly to allow for the change to daylight saving time.
- July 10, 11, 12 - National AAA Conference, Washington, D. C. Farmers should be encouraged to submit their recommendations for the 1941 program to the county office in order that they may be reviewed by local committeemen and forwarded to the State committee for consideration. State committee recommendations will be presented to the National conference.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR

Committeemen

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

MAY 1940

NO. 5

COVER CROPS

More winter cover for bare cropland is the East Central Region's greatest immediate conservation need. Thousands of acres of cropland normally remain bare during the season of heaviest rainfall which causes extensive soil losses by erosion. In an effort to develop an effective cover crop program State Committeemen, Extension Agronomists, and State Executive Officers from the Region recently met in Washington to consider ways to increase the acreage of cover crops this fall.

At the conference representatives from each State submitted recommendations concerning cover crop practices for the 1941 Program. As a direct result of this conference, and in view of the effects of war upon supplies of certain seeds, the States have been urging farmers to save seed of crimson clover, red clover, vetch, winter oats, rye, etc., as a first step toward expanding the acreage of these crops. Committeemen have opportunity to be of special service to farmers in their communities in an effort to obtain adequate supplies of cover crop seed.

County and community committeemen and other farmers are now attending field tours in Tennessee. These groups are visiting farms with the Extension Agronomist and AAA representatives. The tours are being held for the purpose of emphasizing the value of cover crops, encouraging saving of cover crop seed, and showing results obtained from the use of limestone and phosphate.

County and community farm groups should hold meetings this summer to promote the seeding of winter cover crops. Other agencies should be invited to participate in the special educational program necessary to awaken farmers to the need of ending heavy soil losses.

All committeemen are expected to take an active part in efforts to promote cover crops. Much of the progress which must be made toward protecting bare cropland against soil losses will depend upon the extent to which committeemen assume this important responsibility.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Bright Tobacco Situation

In a letter addressed to county and community committeemen in the bright tobacco area farmers were informed of the following recent developments:

- (1) The British import duty on tobacco recently was increased for the third time in a year, making the total duty on U. S. leaf approximately \$3.50 per pound at the official rate of Exchange.
- (2) Less than a million pounds of tobacco has been moved from the 175 million pounds held under the purchase and loan arrangements for the British trade.
- (3) Although lower grades of tobacco have been rather fully absorbed by the trade, partly because of the short Chinese crop, a large quantity of the better grades has not yet moved. The surplus from the huge 1939 and earlier crops is the largest on record.

1940 Participation

Nearly 800,000 farmers in the East Central Region have filed farm plans indicating their intention to participate in the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program. These farmers operate more than 90 percent of the cropland in the Region. Indicated participation is greater than in 1939 when about 600,000 applications for payment were submitted.

The table below shows the number of Applications for Payment filed by States, 1936-1939, and the number of Farm Plans signed in 1940 for States in the East Central Region:

State	Number of Applications for Payment				No. of 1940 Farm Plans Signed
	1936	1937	1938	Estimated 1939	
Delaware	2,964	4,382	6,909	7,503	8,466
Maryland	13,148	14,325	20,924	21,384	25,727
Virginia	44,906	49,703	81,080	76,463	105,280
West Virginia	15,253	27,405	39,578	45,623	57,056
North Carolina	107,559	106,762	171,871	135,937	223,090
Kentucky	109,044	118,647	157,642	148,835	178,690
Tennessee	87,315	87,036	151,077	150,575	180,442

With more farmers taking part in the Agricultural Conservation Program than ever before, the effectiveness of all phases of the program should be greater.

1941 Wheat Allotments

The National Wheat Allotment for 1941 is the same as for 1940. This indicates that farmers are accomplishing stability of production, providing plenty of wheat for all domestic needs, prospective exports and adequate reserves, and avoiding wasteful surplus, through wide participation in the AAA Program. They are using the program to maintain prices and to protect agricultural income and purchasing power.

Crop Insurance

A total of 4,333 wheat farmers in the ECR insured their 1940 wheat crops against all unavoidable losses including those due to flood, drought, winter kill, insect injury, disease, hail, storm, and fire. Adjustment in losses, chiefly due to winter kill and flood, are now being made. Present indications point to increased participation for 1941. The work of establishing yields should be completed in June thus allowing ample time for making application for insurance before the closing date, August 31, 1940.

Wheat Loans

The 1940 Wheat Loan Program was announced a few days ago. The new loan is similar to the 1939 Program. The announcement of the loan followed a week of sharply declining wheat prices. The loan at an average rate for the nation of 64 cents a bushel means that with 1940 Conservation and Parity Payments of 19 cents a bushel added, wheat farmers who cooperate fully in the AAA Program may be assured, on the average, of a return of at least 83 cents a bushel on the normal yield at the farm, regardless of market prices.

County Exhibits

County associations should arrange at once for display of the 1940 AAA portable exhibits which will be available for use in the States after July 5, 1940. County committees may now request the exhibit through State Offices for use in their county.

By means of pictures and scenes, the exhibit shows ways in which AAA aids the land and people. Local pictures may be used in place of those which come with the exhibit. The complete exhibit, weighing about 150 pounds, can be transported by automobile.

Posters

A new background poster, 3½ by 10 feet, will soon be available to counties. The booklet, "Build Your Own Exhibit," which contains suggestions on how to build simple, low-cost county exhibits is also available this year.

Conference Dates

June 3, 4, 5 - National Vegetable Conference, Washington, D. C.
 June 20, 21, 22 - East Central Region Conference, Ocean City, Maryland.
 July 10, 11, 12 - National AAA Conference, Washington, D. C.

Challenge of Underconsumption

A new approach to the disposition of surplus farm products was outlined by Milo Perkins, President, Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation in a recent address. Here's a digest of his remarks:

Surplus Agricultural products have been a serious National problem for over a decade. There are three major causes, namely: (1) The science of production has outrun the science of distribution; we have learned how to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before, but we don't know where to sell the extra blade. (2) Dislocations in foreign trade dating back more than twenty years to the time we changed from a debtor to a creditor Nation. One country after another entered the frantic race to sell all it could abroad, and buy as little as possible. (3) Industrial unemployment resulting from improved machinery. Industrial output per worker has increased around 20 percent in the last ten years. In December, 1939, industrial production reached the 1929 level, yet millions remain unemployed.

A recent study of 1935-36 incomes in the United States made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Home Economics with the collaboration of the National Resource Board indicated that the average income per family was about \$69.00 per month. That's the story of underconsumption in one figure. Nearly 42 percent of our families provided only 26 percent of our food market. People with incomes under \$500.00 a year have about 5 cents per person per meal to spend for food. Families getting an income of about \$100.00 per month have about 10 cents per person per meal for food. The market for our farmers is doubled so far as this group is concerned.

We know that low-income people are eating about half as much as they want. They will buy more food and greater varieties of it if they have the opportunity. The farmer's real stake is in the bottom 2/3 of our city families who are fighting for an income of \$100.00 per month on which to exist. That is his greatest potential market, and it's right here at home. These low-income families provide the principal market for Agricultural commodities. About 85 percent of farmers' income is derived from the production of commodities used for food.

Various Federal programs are in effect to increase the use and distribution of surplus Agricultural products. Newest of these is the Stamp Plan to distribute food surpluses to the needy, through normal channels of trade. The Stamp Plan for the distribution of surplus cotton goods was adopted recently.

Other Surplus-Removal Programs

Other programs seeking to attack the problem of underconsumption and surplus include: (1) purchase and distribution programs, including a plan through which nearly 3 million under-nourished school children in the 48 States are getting noon-day lunches; (2) new use and diversion programs, affecting such commodities as peanuts, dark tobacco, cotton, and wheat; (3) the export subsidy programs to help the American farmer to hold his fair share of the world market.

Cotton Insulation

A new program, just announced, is designed to encourage the use of American cotton as insulation in houses and other structures. Cotton insulation has never before been offered in commercial channels.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR

Committeemen

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

JUNE 1940

NO. 6

Committeemen and the Nation

War has deepened the responsibility of AAA committeemen to their neighbors, to their communities, and to American agriculture.

Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace, in a statement to the press on June 12, said:

"The national farm programs have given us the machinery for effective farmer cooperation in times of peace or war. Through the AAA, organized on a county by county basis, farmers are operating their programs. In every one of the 3,021 agricultural counties of the United States there is a county AAA committee elected by the farmers of that county. In 24,056 farm communities throughout the United States, there are AAA farmer-elected community committees. The members of these committees are familiar with their local agriculture and they are familiar with Government procedure. Through this organization, it is possible to move swiftly toward any changes that are needed in agriculture...This can be done efficiently and without hysteria by means of the community and county committeemen."

Just a few days before the Secretary's statement, Administrator R. M. Evans had written in a letter to committeemen:

"AAA has the opportunity to perform great service in the days ahead. The No. 1 job is to hold the line on the program that it may protect farmers and the Nation now and in the future. Perhaps only second to this is the opportunity presented to keep the rank and file of America who live on the farms and in the small towns informed about the effects on agriculture of the changes in national and international conditions. Each committeeman should be a center for accurate information."

In the testing days ahead you have opportunity to serve well those who look to you for leadership.

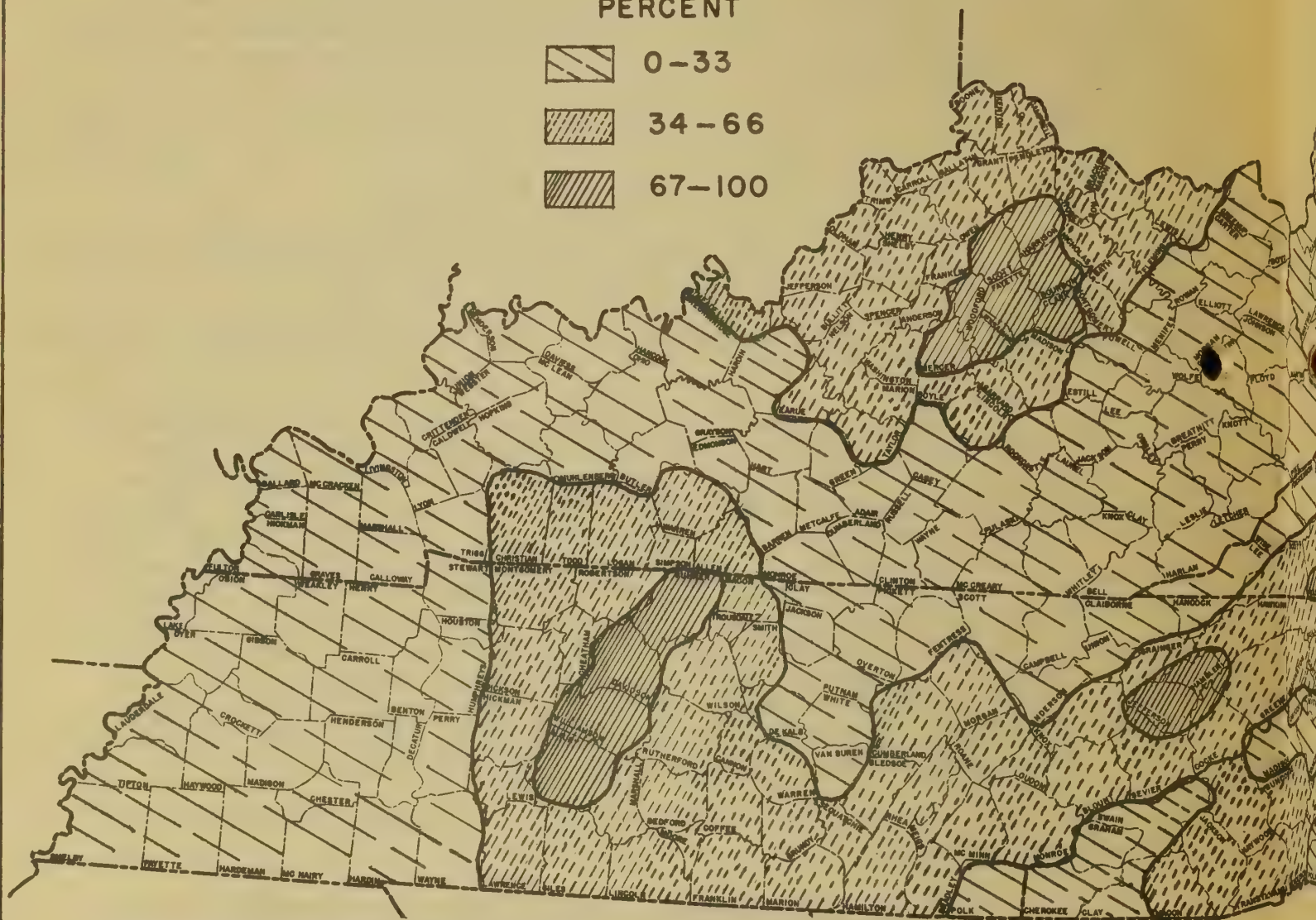
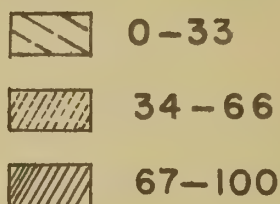
W. G. Finn
W. G. Finn.

WINTER COVER CROPS

PERCENTAGE OF CULTIVATED ACREAGE

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE

PERCENT

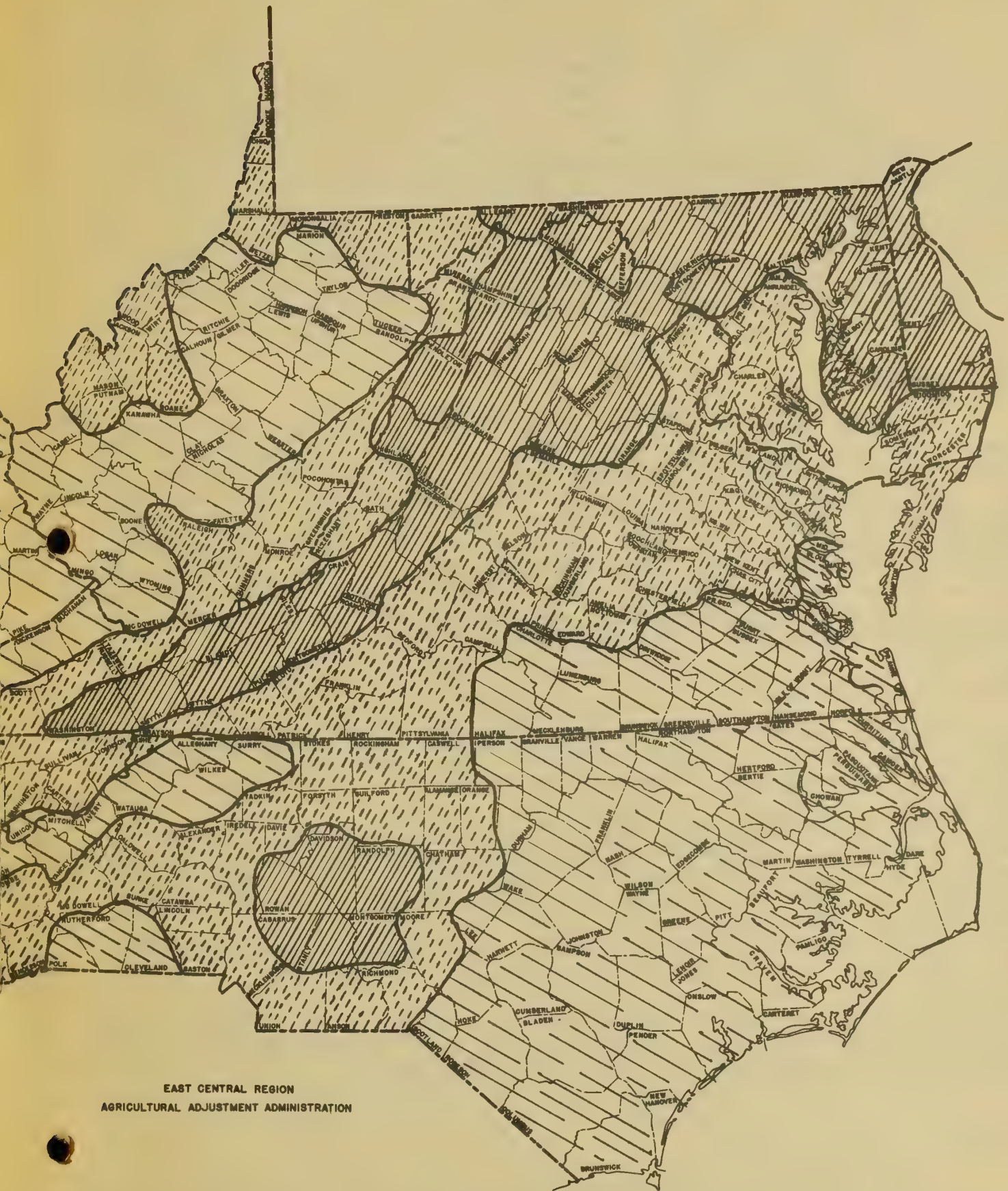


THIS MAP OF THE REGION TELLS A STORY WHICH SHOULD CHALLENGE EVERY COMMITTEEMAN TO USE COVER CROPS ON HIS OWN LAND AND TO ENCOURAGE HIS NEIGHBORS TO SEED SUCH CROPS ON THEIR CULTIVATED ACREAGE.

ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE INCREASE SINCE THE A.A.A. PROGRAM STARTED IN THE AMOUNT OF

WINTER COVER USED THROUGHOUT THE REGION, MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CULTIVATED ACREAGE (NEARLY 10 MILLION ACRES) STILL IS BEING LEFT BARE, EXPOSED TO EROSION AND LEACHING.

LET'S ALL WORK TOWARD STOPPING THESE SOIL LOSSES BY THE USE OF MORE COVER CROPS THIS YEAR.



EAST CENTRAL REGION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Tobacco Amendments

Recent amendments to the tobacco quota provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, authorize a referendum on marketing quotas for a period of three years. They also provide, if quotas are in effect for three years, that no farm allotment may be reduced (except in case of violation of the quota provisions) during the period below the 1940 allotment for the farm by more than 10 percent, and farms having 1940 allotments of two acres or less for flue-cured and one acre or less for Burley may not be reduced at all during the three year period. Adequate provisions for full collection of penalties on any tobacco marketed in excess of the farm quota are included in the amendments. Any farmer who markets tobacco from an acreage in excess of his allotment will have the penalty of ten cents per pound on the excess marketings collected beginning with the first sale of tobacco from the farm. There will be no transfer of quotas or sale of marketing cards.

Good Pictures

Newspaper people say that one good picture is better than a thousand words. Committeemen can create on their own farms "pictures" or demonstrations of soil-building practices which they advocate that will be far more telling than words.

For example, committeemen may demonstrate the results of applying lime and superphosphate. Three or four plots of the same soil, growing the same conserving crops or pasture, may be given different treatment; one might be untreated, another given limestone only; another superphosphate only, and a fourth treated with sufficient amounts of both limestone and superphosphate. Such a practical demonstration will be more convincing than anything the committeeman could say. Neighbors and others should be invited when the "picture" is ready.

Regional Conference

Representatives from the 7 States of the East Central Region met June 20-22 at Ocean City, Maryland, to draft the Region's recommendations for the 1941 National Farm Program and to consider ways of making the administration of the program more effective and economical.

State committeemen, Extension representatives, State Executive Officers, county committeemen, and field men, sifted the proposals coming before the conference from the various communities. For two days the committees deliberated, then submitted reports which, after discussion and minor modification were adopted by the conference.

These proposals will be presented to the national AAA conference in Washington, July 10-12, which will be attended by representatives from all the 48 States.

In general, changes requested were minor, apparently reflecting a widely-held opinion that there should be little change from the present 1940 program. A digest of recommendations approved by the conference is available to interested committeemen through the State offices.

AAA Notebooks Off the Press

A supply of AAA notebooks (referred to in February issue of AAA Flashes) is being forwarded to State offices for distribution to all committeemen, county agents, and vocational teachers.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

JULY 1940

NO. 7

NATIONAL AAA CONFERENCE

Parity income is not a selfish desire of farmers, but a necessity demanded by the national interest, Secretary Wallace told the more than 200 State committeemen, field officers, and extension workers who assembled from every State in the Union for the National AAA Conference in Washington, July 10-13. The Secretary appealed to committeemen to continue the battle for national strength through parity income.

Secretary Wallace also described agriculture as "the best prepared industry in the country" for national defense. Agriculture's responsibilities--and its achievements--in preparing for national defense were recurrent topics of the conference from the opening remarks by AAA Administrator Evans to the "across-the-table chat" of Chester C. Davis, agriculture's member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and of the National Defense Advisory Commission.

Recommendations for the 1941 program made by the State committeemen were much the same as those for 1940. The conference was divided into 15 major committees which prepared recommendations pointing toward these objectives: to continue and strengthen agriculture's part in preparedness; to continue the effort toward parity income; to achieve more conservation and to improve methods of operation and effectiveness of administration.

Administrator Evans' comment was "Today, when the greatest test is that of preparedness, the farmers are ready with an effective working farm program, an abundance of food and fiber in the Ever-Normal Granary, and enriched soil. The manner in which farmers in each community elect their own committeemen to administer the program locally is an example of working democracy which has attracted world-wide attention. It is proof that national unity may be achieved by democratic methods and machinery."

Thirteen of the conference committees made recommendations which may affect the program in our Region. A summary of important recommendations by these committees follows:

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Soil-Building Practices

1. Continue for 1941, soil-building practices used in 1940. 2. Where desired, permit farmers to earn portions of their payments only by carrying out specified practices needed in the local area.

Increasing Effectiveness of Program

1. Enable states to close the program year June 30 instead of August 31, if desired. 2. Extend marketing quotas to such other crops as are practical and desirable. 3. Authorize county committee to require (with approval of State committee and regional director) as a condition of payment that producers follow a cropping and farm management plan for their farms that will, over a period of years, conserve the soil and increase its productivity.

Rates of Payment and Allowances

1. Continue in 1941 the \$20 minimum payment per farm. 2. Discontinue \$30 tree planting allowance. 3. In the event of changed participation estimates, maintain for 1941 same relationship between special crop rates and soil-building allowances as for 1940.

Crop Classification

1. Where recommended by State committee and approved by Region, allow disposal of acreages of wheat or commercial corn unintentionally planted above allotment (not exceeding 3 acres or 3 percent). 2. Classify as non-depleting fall sown oats in serious erosion areas having no adapted biennial or perennial winter cover crops.

Grant of Aid

1. Extend the project to additional areas and increase its effectiveness in 1941. 2. Discontinue the term "grant of aid" and use a term such as "soil-building advances."

Truck and Vegetable Crops

1. Establish commercial vegetable allotments in counties designated as commercial, in which more than 400 acres are normally grown on farms producing 3 acres or more. 2. Include processing crops except where they are found not to be in competition with fresh vegetables. 3. Exclude sweet potatoes except where requested by State committee and approved by Region. 4. Exclude bulbs and flowers.

Orchards

1. Provide practice for removal of marginal apple trees. 2. Include practice for contour planting of orchards, with prior approval of county committee.

Allotment and Yield Procedure

1. Make no payments on "new farm" cotton allotments. 2. Limit allotments on newly-developed farms to less than allotments on nearby "old farms" making substantial adjustments. 3. Discontinue total depleting allotments in parts of "B" area approved by AAA.

Determination of Performance

1. So far as possible, notify operators before planting time of measured acreages in fields having permanent boundaries. 2. Make fewest possible visits to farms. 3. Continue spot checks.

Educational Activities

1. The AAA is property of the public, held in trust by the farmers, and therefore the committeemen, as representatives of the farmers, have a signal responsibility to champion their cause. 2. Well-trained and well-informed committeemen are the hub of an effective educational program. 3. Use all methods of education and every agency in a position to co-operate, continuously re-emphasizing and driving home the fundamentals of the farm program--stressing particularly the fact that conservation is the best way to keep the land and the people in readiness for any emergency, and that the Ever-Normal Granary stands as a bulwark of strength and preparedness in times like these. 4. Expand the use of color slides, film strips, newspaper pictures and mats, motion pictures, etc.

Administration

1. Study methods of economizing without reducing efficiency in county offices, such as improvement of housing, organization and management, and proper training of personnel. 2. Make a member of each State committee responsible for reviewing county estimates and expenses, and for advising with fieldmen and county committees regarding corrections and improvements in organization which should be made. 3. Call attention to the importance of adequate and comfortable office space for each county office. 4. Locate all county agricultural activities under one roof, if possible, for the convenience of farm people and efficiency of work. 5. Give out available information relative to the next year's program at election meetings, in order to obtain better attendance at community elections. 6. Emphasize desirability of having farmer elected as community chairman also be the delegate to the county convention. 7. Encourage county committees in cooperation with State committees to give examinations to all applicants for positions.

Commodity Loans

1. Stagger the maturity date of loans to assure orderly marketing of wheat. 2. Develop cotton loan price differentials on area basis rather than on individual warehouse value basis. 3. Make cotton loans on net weight basis. 4. Make cotton loans at highest rate justifiable under existing conditions.

* * * * *

These recommendations, most of which will form the basis for drafting the 1941 program provisions, do not change the general outlines of the present AAA program. Recommendations which received close votes will necessarily be studied carefully before a decision is reached regarding them. It is expected that the National Bulletin for the 1941 program will be available in September.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Pasture Improvement and Management

Proper fertilization and management make it possible to increase the carrying capacity of pastures and thus result in greater returns on the farm. This is the advice given by D. B. Johnstone-Wallace of Cornell University in an address at the National AAA Conference.

Johnstone-Wallace discussed the types of fields suited for pastures and indicated that the best pasture land on the farm should be improved first because after such improvement much of the poor land may not be needed. Medium to heavy soils well supplied with moisture are better for pasture purposes than are the lighter and drier soils.

Pasture improvement, the speaker pointed out, is not expensive. On most New York farms, the annual cost of fertilizer treatment need seldom exceed \$2 for each cow, or its equivalent in animal units, maintained on the farm, he said.

Committeemen Plan Work

A new plan has been adopted for obtaining improved county office organization and efficiency in all States of the Region. Under this plan county committeemen in cooperation with chief clerks will meet each month to review expenses of the county office for the preceding month and to prepare plans of work for the following month. A State committeeman designated to have charge of this work and the fieldman for the county will carefully review the work plans and where necessary recommend to the county committee changes to increase the effectiveness of the program in the county and reduce costs.

Conservation of the Farm Home

Reports by farm women and farmer-committeemen on "Conservation of the Farm Home" are being broadcast every Tuesday through August 20 as part of the National Farm and Home Hour at 11:30 A.M., Eastern Standard Time. Every section of the Nation is represented. A farm woman and a committeeman from Maryland will participate in a broadcast on "Country Life and Triple A" on August 20.

Referendum Results

More than 86% of the flue-cured tobacco growers who voted in the July 20 referendum favored marketing quotas for the three years, 1941-43, according to preliminary returns announced on July 22, 1940.

	: For Quotas 1941-43		:	:For Quotas:		:	Total for Quotas		:	Against	:	Total
State	: Number	: Percent	:	:1941 Only	: Number	:	: Percent	:	:	Quotas	:	: Votes
Fla.	: 2,555	: 88.0	:	52	: 2,607	:	89.8	:	:	297	:	2,904
Ga.	: 16,157	: 84.7	:	551	: 16,708	:	87.6	:	:	2,374	:	19,082
S. C.	: 16,204	: 88.7	:	441	: 16,645	:	91.1	:	:	1,619	:	18,264
N. C.	: 117,580	: 86.9	:	1,973	: 119,553	:	88.4	:	:	15,674	:	135,227
Va.	: 12,119	: 76.5	:	392	: 12,511	:	78.9	:	:	3,337	:	15,848
Totals:	: 164,698	: 86.1	:	3,409	: 168,107	:	87.8	:	:	23,301	:	191,408

*Alabama, 83 votes, all for three-year quotas.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR

Committeemen

NOV 20 1940

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

AUGUST 1940

NO. 8

"What can I do to help my country in times like these?" That is a question many farmers are asking themselves. I am sure it is a question you have asked yourself.

The most important thing you and all your neighbors can do to help the country right now is to see that your AAA program is carried out as it should be on your farms. You will at all times want to be centers of accurate information regarding ways in which the program contributes to our national welfare and what it means to agriculture. You who understand will have to hold the line for America on the farm front. The machinery you have built up so laboriously these last few years is not something to be junked in the hour of national need.

Our defense leaders acknowledge that agriculture is the best prepared industry. The program you have built in your communities has provided a system for raising and storing the food and fibre America needs without the waste that comes from uncontrolled surpluses and shortages. You may feel proud to have played your part as a Triple-A committeeman in building this program that gives America the edge over every country in the world in agricultural preparedness.

As AAA committeemen you will have unusual opportunities and responsibilities under the national defense program. To fulfill them you must continue to read and to study and to encourage your neighbors to do likewise. I say to you fortify your program and your farms as your contribution to America.

Sincerely yours,

Administrator.

Can Democracy Do It?

If you read a news item from Berlin - "Hitler aids farmers in planting 22,000,000 forest trees, spreading 1,000,000 tons of phosphate and 10,000,000 tons of lime, and building more than 30,000 miles of farm terraces, enough to circle the earth - you might say, "Dictatorship certainly gets things done in a big way. Democracy can't match it. Imagine--10,000,000 tons of lime!"

Don't be misled, this wasn't done in Germany. It was done in a democracy, by farmers cooperating on a voluntary basis. That's the ACP record during the five years 1936 to 1940 in the seven States of the East Central Region. It means conservation of our soil and better farm life in America.

In the National Interest

Free trade and free business enterprise have been defended by every American economist for the past century; but, so far as I know, not one of them has ever defended the right of an individual or of a corporation to engage in trade which is clearly against national interest...

Obviously, trading those things of which we have an unusable surplus for things we need is good public policy. But it ceases to be good public policy when we are trading away the future strength and security of our people. To take one simple case in point: My State has been trading its cotton to Europe for a hundred years...We produce a bale of cotton representing the loss of 130 tons of top-soil...and trade it for an ounce of gold...We are trading our heritage for gold--and putting the gold back in the ground. I do not mean to say that the foreign trade in cotton should be stopped. But I do mean to say that foreign trade must serve the national interest. --Robert Montgomery, Professor of Economics, University of Texas, before National AAA Conference.

The Year Ahead

By the end of August, most East Central counties will have completed county and community elections for the 1941 program year. The new committees will inherit great responsibilities from those who served in 1940. One of these responsibilities will be to continue the program of education begun by the outgoing committees, and to meet the needs for special information sure to arise this fall and next year. The program of farmer-business meetings, started last spring, should be continued in every county of the Region. This is in addition to the administration of the program in the counties and communities.

AAA Notebooks

The AAA Notebooks have been in the field since July. Most committeemen have already obtained their copies and found them packed with useful information. Some are making it a habit to carry their notebooks everywhere, much like a traveler who keeps his passport on his person at all times. Others plan to make the notebooks personal possessions by adding information, blank pages for notes, and by keeping the present information up-to-date. For such committeemen, the notebooks will indeed grow in value and meaning.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Majority for Conservation

Public opinion generally favors fair income for farmers and necessary measures to assure conservation of the soil. However, the need for proper adjustment of the acreage of soil-depleting crops as the first step to conservation often is not clearly understood. There is opportunity for all to emphasize the importance of acreage adjustment in promoting conservation as well as in lifting farm income.

"Elements of Life"

The effect of differences in the mineral content of soil upon plants, animals, and living conditions are shown graphically in a recent bulletin of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station. Under the title, "Elements of Life," the publication presents striking differences in the yield and feeding value of crops grown on phosphate-rich and phosphate-poor soils. Although hay grown on the poor land looked like that from the rich land, it was found to contain less nutrients, and a calf fed on it gained only 104 pounds while another fed the same amount of hay from phosphate-rich soil gained 153 pounds in the same period.

Land containing sufficient phosphates maintained a fine protective sod cover while it was difficult to establish a sod on phosphate-poor soil. Where parts of pastures were improved with lime and phosphate, cattle left the untreated parts to graze on the treated portions.

The striking contrasts between farm conditions on phosphate-rich and phosphate-poor land make a strong case for more conservation.

Conservation Materials

The Region had furnished under the materials program almost a million tons of liming materials as of August 16, also 111,536 tons of concentrated superphosphate and 71,011 tons of 20% superphosphate. The record by States:

	Concentrated phosphate (Tons)	20 percent phosphate (Tons)	Liming Materials (Tons)
Delaware	-	-	1,463
Kentucky	57,924	41,454	85,372
Maryland	169	493	11,066
North Carolina	4,474	4,763	171,195
Tennessee	22,065	16,407	321,201
Virginia	14,822	6,165	245,987
West Virginia	12,082	1,729	136,955
Total	111,536	71,011	973,239

First shipments of Austrian Winter pea seed from the Pacific Northwest as conservation materials (grants of aid) for use in the winter cover crop campaign were made in July. Up to August 15, Tennessee farmers had ordered about 1,000,000 pounds, and farmers in North Carolina had ordered around 2,500,000 pounds. Some of these seed also will be supplied to Virginia.

The Wheat Situation

There is a possibility of less exports during the 1940 marketing year than during 1939 because of large crops in other wheat-producing countries and a likelihood that wheat-consuming countries now at war will use their financial credits in the United States to buy war materials rather than food grains which may be obtained from other countries. Nothing in the national or world situation indicates need for an acreage in excess of the allotment.

The 1941 national wheat acreage allotment is the same as for 1940. Farm wheat allotments are the same as for 1940 except in those few cases where minor adjustments were made because of changes in farm operations.

Wheat Loans

In July loans were completed on 606,000 bushels of wheat in the Region. This about equals the total quantity East Central placed under loan in 1939. Much additional wheat has since been stored for placing under loan later this year. Wheat produced on farms on which wheat allotments have not been exceeded becomes eligible for loan, when stored in approved warehouses, provided it grades No. 3 or better, or is No. 3 on all factors except test weight.

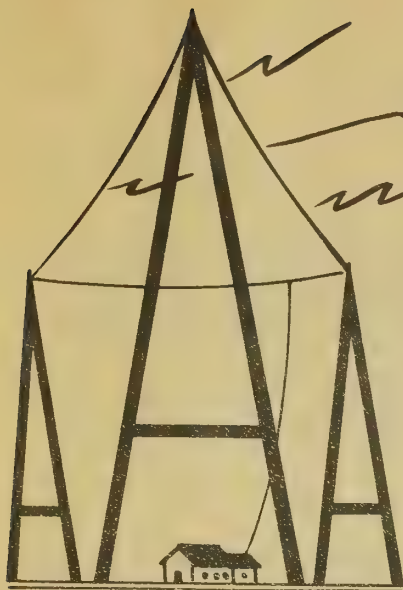
The wheat loan program provides for orderly marketing of the crop and permits farmers to take advantage of any improvement of the market. The loan value, together with conservation and wheat parity payments, means a return to the cooperating farmer of from 90¢ to \$1.00 for his wheat. The program also helps to maintain the Ever-Normal Granary as a main line of the Nation's defense system.

Crop Insurance

Farmers have until August 31 to make application for crop insurance on their 1941 wheat crops. The premium rate for 1/5 percent coverage is 1/2 bushel per acre on a high proportion of farms. To pay this premium and have three-fourths of a crop guaranteed regardless of weather or other hazards can be compared with seeding an extra half bushel per acre, which most farmers would gladly do if the small extra seeding would guarantee such a crop.

The program permits premium payments in wheat, cash, or by means of an advance from parity or conservation payments. The low cost of insurance plus its many advantages should appeal to all farmers.

About 46,000 of the wheat allotment farms in the East Central Region are in counties that had crop insurance available in 1940. Yet, only a small number filed applications. The large number of farms not using crop insurance indicates that many wheat growers may not fully understand the program. Every wheat farmer in these counties should be told the story of crop insurance by his committeemen and invited to prepare an application prior to August 31.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

SEPTEMBER 1940

NO. 9

A Message from the Secretary

Dear Committeemen:

American farmers have come a long way in seven years. You and I can remember the day when, for lack of farm unity, every farmer stood alone against such enemies as soil erosion, top-heavy surpluses, and low farm income.

Today, American farmers present a solid front against these problems. They have achieved a unity which makes for the power to overcome obstacles, and to win for themselves a fair share of the Nation's blessings. They have advanced the national welfare in so doing, for a unified and strong agriculture is a basic necessity in our democracy.

Individual leaders deserve much credit in securing agriculture's advance, but the real tribute belongs to the man behind the plow--to yourselves and the farmers you represent in the AAA Program. Farmers have worked out their own farm program and are operating it today, with courage and foresight. Nowhere is this more true than in the states of the East Central Region which stretch from the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi River. In this area recently, we have seen another example of forward-looking initiative. Tobacco growers are the first to undertake a long-range marketing quota program, and farmers in the flue-cured area may well be proud of their pace-setting accomplishments. Yet much remains to be done.

The future will demand the best efforts of all of us, in consolidating the gains made in recent years, and finding improved means of increasing conservation, providing adequate supplies, and maintaining a fair farm income. I am confident you will remain in the foreground in that effort.

Sincerely yours,

Claude R. Wickard
Secretary of Agriculture.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Lime and Phosphate for 1941 Program

Lime and phosphate are available in all States of the East Central Region as 1941 conservation materials. Farmers are making applications for these materials for use this autumn, particularly in connection with pastures and specified winter cover crops.

Orders received to date total 40,420 tons of lime, 2,668 tons of triple superphosphate, and 3,573 tons of 20 percent phosphate.

AAA and Vocational Agriculture

County and community committeemen have a new opportunity to increase the effects of the farm program and agricultural education as a result of arrangements recently worked out by representatives of the AAA and Vocational Agriculture. It was agreed that a coordinated effort would be made to develop projects along the lines of cover crops, forestry, pasture improvement and soil-conserving crops.

In the development of such projects young farm people will have opportunity to acquire a better understanding of the objectives and provisions of the AAA program. Committeemen can further these efforts by voluntarily discussing local programs with Smith-Hughes teachers and students.

1940 Applications Being Submitted

Applications for payment under the 1940 Program already are being received. Computations for payment are being made and deductions for county association expenses are being determined. Facilities for giving prompt attention to all applications are available and checks will be going forward to farmers in the near future.

Expanding Cotton Consumption

Efforts are being made by private business and cotton producers to stimulate the important work of expanding domestic consumption of cotton. Promotional procedures and scientific research are being utilized. The National Cotton Council of America has issued numerous newspaper mats and news stories and full-page advertising depicting cotton materials in Autumn, Winter and Spring fashions. Posters, personal calls on publishers, leaflets, letters, and prepared radio programs also are being utilized. In the research field, experiments include use of linters and low-grade cotton in the manufacture of fine writing paper, use of cotton in the manufacture of heavy-duty tires, and recovery of protein from cottonseed.

When the new Southern Regional Laboratory at New Orleans is put into active operation in the Spring of 1941, its efforts will be aimed at finding new uses and new outlets for cotton. Special cotton research also will seek new uses and outlets for cottonseed oil, cotton textiles, and other cotton by-products and products.

Broadcast Briefs

Committeemen are in the front rank of agriculture's conservation army making war against soil destruction. The following reports, made on nationwide radio broadcasts, indicate that farmers are making real progress in solving soil problems.

H. E. Boswell, Nottoway Co., Va.: "We know we can develop pastures. We recently bought an ugly, galled piece of land grown up to poverty grass. We used plenty of lime and phosphate and seeded a good pasture mixture. And in just one year afterward, the pasture would carry a cow to the acre."

C. Arthur Taylor, Del.: "From the very start of the Triple-A, Delaware farmers have cooperated. This year more than 90 percent of the cropland and more than 95 percent of the wheat acreage is in the program. Last year we had about five times as many acres in winter legumes and other green manure crops as in 1936."

F. E. Roberts, Gibson Co., Tenn.: "Our Triple-A Committee and every agricultural worker in the county started talking up lime and telling farmers how they could get it. After we had stirred up interest, we used more than 28,000 tons.....584 cars. If all those cars had come in at one time, we would have had a train five miles long."

Hu S. Vandervort, W. Va.: "The fundamental need of West Virginia soils is lime, more lime, and still more lime. This year we expect to use enough to exceed a grand total of a million tons used under the program."

H. A. Sims, Union Co., N. C.: "Only about two-thirds of the farmers in the county had grown any legumes before the program started. The soil-building program has reached the other third who weren't growing these crops before. But the most important thing is that the program has helped all our farmers to finance conservation practices they couldn't have carried out without the program."

M. D. Royse, Ky.: "In Kentucky we believe in lime. During the last three years, we used more lime per acre of cropland than any other State in the Union. We're spreading hundreds of thousands of tons again this year. And we're using far more superphosphate than ever before."

Thomas C. Darby, Montgomery Co., Md.: "I've seen what happens when farmers don't get enough money for their crops. They can't buy the things they need, and they don't take care of the soil. Our program makes up for lack of income by helping us take care of the soil. We're using acreage adjustment and crop loans to keep surpluses under control. And we're controlling surpluses so we can have parity income."

United We Stand

No farmer lives unto himself alone. The manner in which he uses his soil resources, the amount of farm products he produces, how much he buys, the extent to which living standards are maintained on the farm--all vitally concern businessmen, industrial employees, consumers, and others.

The job of keeping agriculture economically sound is primarily the farmers' job. The AAA provides a governmental agency through which farmers can tackle the job unitedly.

Quotas for Burley and Dark Tobacco

November 23, 1940, is the date recommended by growers of both Burley and dark tobacco for holding referendums on marketing quotas. Burley growers of nine States were represented at a meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, September 10. After hearing reports on the condition of the 1940 crop and present supply, the group agreed that marketing quotas were necessary and recommended that farm allotments remain the same for 1941 as in 1940 provided quotas were adopted for a three-year period, but that allotments of more than one acre probably would need to be reduced 10 percent if quotas were adopted for only one year.

Similar meetings for the dark tobacco areas were held at Hopkinsville, Kentucky, September 11 and Farmville, Virginia, September 18 at which it was decided that because of serious losses of export outlets, downward adjustments of 25 percent in dark tobacco allotments would need to be made, provided quotas were adopted for a three-year period, whereas adjustments of 33-1/3 percent would be necessary if quotas were adopted for only one year.

Plans were formulated for presenting the issues to the growers prior to the referendum date.

It will be remembered that on July 20, 1940, growers of flue-cured tobacco adopted marketing quotas for a three-year period. To date prices received by flue-cured growers have averaged 2 to 3 cents a pound higher than those received during the 1939 marketing season, even though quality of leaf in some instances has been inferior to that of last year.

Wildlife in the AAA Program

In the matter of wildlife conservation, the farmer and the resident of town or city meet on common ground. The birds, animals, fish, and even the reptiles, of the forests and fields and of the streams and lakes of America are a source of enjoyment for everybody. It is significant that... more than half of the Nation's wildlife exists on privately owned farm, forest, and range lands.....This means that the biggest part of the work of conserving our national resources of quail, pheasants, doves, squirrels, raccoons, opossums, and many other kinds of valuable game and fur-bearing animals must be done by individual farmers--right on their own land.....

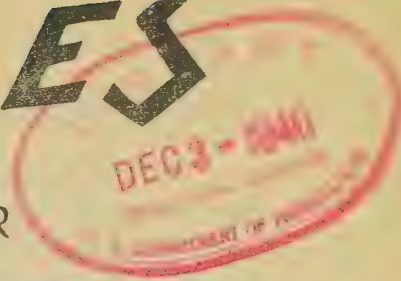
The AAA program has been a conservation program from the very beginning. Land taken out of production of soil-depleting crops has been put mainly into pastures and soil-building legumes.....A large part of this acreage is not disturbed by plow or mower. This has helped conserve and increase the number of birds and game animals of many kinds. While wildlife in the past has benefited to a great extent as an indirect result of conservation practices on the land, practices aimed explicitly at wildlife conservation were included in the 1940 and 1941 programs.

Film strips and folders G-100 under the title "More Abundant Wildlife Through the AAA Program" containing more detailed information are available to committeemen for use and distribution.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen



Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

OCTOBER 1940

NO. 10

Democracy in Action

Dear Committeemen:

Referendums will be held November 23, 1940, on marketing quotas for Burley, dark fired, and dark air-cured tobacco. The cotton referendum will be on December 7, 1940. These referendums offer unusual opportunities for service and place great responsibility upon all committeemen in the county and communities involved.

It is an essential principle of American democracy that an intelligent people, in full possession of the facts, can make decisions more dependable than can be made by any individual or small group. The worth of this principle has been proven in the 164 years of our democracy and will reassert itself when farmers vote on quotas.

Whatever the decision of tobacco growers or cotton growers in the coming referendums, we can be sure that it will be sound, PROVIDED the full facts are placed in the hands of growers before they vote. The decision of the growers will be final. It is your job and mine, and the job of all of us associated in the farm program, to give the growers a clear and complete understanding of the facts.

The burden of effort in the front line, as usual falls upon committeemen. In fulfilling this duty, you will be helping to preserve the American way of life and our democratic principles, as exemplified in the farm program. This is a time for all of us to put our shoulder to the wheel.

Sincerely yours,

W. G. Finn,
Director, East Central Division.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Lime and Phosphate Used as Conservation Materials

Incomplete figures indicate that about 200 percent more lime and 50 percent more phosphate were used as conservation materials in 1940 than were used in 1939 in the East Central Region. The 1940 totals reported to date are 1,058,472 tons of lime as compared to 342,901 tons in 1939, and 142,011 tons of triple superphosphate equivalent as compared to 92,444 tons in 1939.

The largest percentage increase in the use of lime was made by Virginia, which used 280 percent more in 1940 than in 1939. Virginia, however, showed only a 7 percent increase in use of phosphate. Other percentage increases, by States, include: West Virginia, 193 percent; Kentucky, 190 percent; Tennessee, 268 percent; North Carolina, 115 percent.

The largest increase in use of phosphate was made by North Carolina, which used 102 percent more in 1940 than in 1939. Other increases included: Kentucky, 98 percent, and Tennessee, 60 percent. West Virginia showed a decrease of 22 percent in phosphate used under the conservation materials program.

Sales of Commercial Fertilizer Maintained

In a letter from a representative of a large fertilizer concern recently received by the AAA in Washington, the following statement was made:

"It hardly seems possible that the distribution of 35,000 to 40,000 tons of AAA fertilizers in Kentucky annually during the past three years would result in no appreciable curtailment of tonnage of the industry in Kentucky during this period, but such are the facts. And I attribute it largely to the work of your organization bringing about a fertilizer consciousness in the minds of Kentucky farmers, whereby they have seen the results of the fertilizers distributed through your Department on cover crops, and these farmers, a great many of whom have never used fertilizers before, have purchased additional tonnage to be used under their grain crops."

1940 ACP Payments

The movement of 1940 ACP applications for payment is now under way and some farmers have already received their 1940 payments. Up to October 30, the Examining Section had received about 20,000 applications. However, more than 700,000 applications are expected for 1940. The number of applications expected and the number received so far from each State are as follows:

<u>State</u>	<u>Number Expected</u>	<u>Receipts October 30</u>
Delaware	8,000	274
Kentucky	168,000	5,665
Maryland	22,800	2,679
North Carolina	210,000	70
Tennessee	169,000	9,662
Virginia	91,200	1,502
West Virginia	51,000	717
Total Region	<u>720,000</u>	<u>20,569</u>

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Delaware's State Committee Chairman

(No. 1 of a Series of Personal Sketches of State AAA Chairmen.)

C. Arthur Taylor, Chairman of the State AAA Committee for Delaware, has served as a county or State committeeman ever since the AAA program began. Mr. Taylor began cooperating with the Agricultural Extension Service more than 20 years ago, and his active leadership in farm affairs has continued. He is about 55 years of age and has lived all his life on a 150-acre farm near Harrington, Delaware, where he grows such crops as corn, wheat, vegetables, and strawberries.

His general knowledge of farming conditions in Delaware has been of valuable assistance in developing the various programs now operating in the State. Mr. Taylor spends considerable time visiting county offices and contacting farmers.

The chairman's activities also include participation in the Grange movement, and the development of the rural electrification program in Delaware.

Canada's Surplus Wheat

Alfred L. Johnson, Groton, South Dakota, recently made a 1,200-mile trip through the wheat area of Canada. Here is the situation as given by Mr. Johnson in his report:

Canada has a tremendous crop with the export market gone and storage space for only one-fourth of the production. Wheat is piled high on the ground, exposed to the elements. Perhaps 100 million bushels are piled like sand, except where growers are able to build emergency bins in the fields. Sales in the prairie province are limited to an average of about 50 percent of average yield per acre with a farm price of about 50 cents per bushel.

This statement by a Canadian wheat authority was quoted by Mr. Johnson: "We don't know the answer unless it's a program similar to the one you have in the United States. One reason I like your program so much is because your program is linked with the soil. It's conserving the soil as well as conserving the people. Some day future generations are going to need that food stored in the soil."

"Soil for Tomorrow"

A motion picture in color, entitled "Soil for Tomorrow," is being completed, and will be made available for showing in communities throughout the Region. The picture is so arranged that it carries the audience through the important phases of soil building and soil conservation being practiced under the AAA program.

Although the scenes were taken in North Carolina, they are typical of most of the other States in the Region, and the film is intended to serve a Regional purpose.

The farmers who are the "actors" in this film demonstrate to the audience the benefits of the trend to better living and better income through soil conservation. In many ways, the film is a record of a new trend in southern agriculture.

Mr. Allen Broadcasts

Six generations on the same farm! That is the record of the family of Thomas W. Allen, AAA Chairman, Granville County, North Carolina. Mr. Allen operates the same farm which first was cleared by his great-great-great-grandfather, one of North Carolina's earliest settlers.

Mr. Allen took part in the National Farm and Home Hour broadcast on "Agriculture in Defense," October 7. He appeared with Carl Robbins, president of the Commodity Credit Corporation; N. C. Williamson of Lake Providence, Louisiana, president of the American Cotton Cooperative Association; and other representative growers of corn, wheat, and dried fruit. Mr. Allen discussed the use of marketing quotas in cushioning the economic shock of war and other emergencies.

The North Carolinian spoke from experience. His farm has both a tobacco and cotton allotment. Granville County claims the distinction of being the strongest advocate of tobacco marketing quotas in the entire Region, Granville growers having approved flue-cured quotas for the 1938 season by 98.6 percent, for 1939 by 89.1 percent, and for 1940 by 99.6 percent.

During his broadcast, Mr. Allen said of quotas, in part: "... a marketing quota can be voted in by growers, if they want it, any year when supplies reach a point that hurt prices. The quota helps us adjust production to demand. Quotas prevent wasted work and wasted expense and wasted land, and they help us get a fair income."

1941 Work for Committeemen

The coming winter months should afford State and local committees an excellent opportunity to develop definite programs of work for community committeemen. Such programs in most instances should include: (1) Contacting farmers in connection with Farm Plans and making applications for conservation materials; (2) Demonstrations of soil-building practices and tours of these demonstrations; (3) Contacts with farmers who in the past have failed to reach their soil-building goals; (4) Leadership in community meetings, and informing farmers of timely developments; (5) Activities in connection with marketing quota referendums.

Meetings for Committeemen

During the month of October, 2-day meetings for AAA committeemen and other farm leaders were held throughout the State of Tennessee. Representatives of the AAA, the Extension Service, and other agricultural agencies participated in these meetings.

Some of the topics discussed were: AAA in National Defense, 1940 Program, committee responsibilities, cotton and tobacco marketing quotas, and the promotion of soil-building practices adapted to the different farming areas in Tennessee.

Two similar meetings have been held at Abingdon and Farmville, Virginia, and more are planned for the future.



FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

NOVEMBER 1940

NO. 11

Timely Statements by Agricultural Leaders

"Groups of producers who have lost vital export markets because of the war are able to protect their industries against ruin by making use of the machinery for production adjustment.

"Through the Ever Normal Granary program, reserves of food and fiber have been stored against a future day of need resulting from short crops or increased demand." Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture.

* * *

"Most of us remember, all too clearly, the eagerness with which farmers responded to the 'Food Will Win the War' slogan in 1917. Agricultural leadership still thinks in terms of the economic headache and the soil erosion damage which followed that emergency period. This we wish to avoid in our efforts to keep war away from this continent." Chester C. Davis, Member National Defense Advisory Commission.

* * *

"One of the most frequent criticisms of the Triple-A is that acreage adjustment has deprived people of a chance to earn a living on the farm. When people voice their objections to crop control, presumably they are advocating unlimited production on unlimited acreage. I have often wondered if such people are really willing to face the consequences of that kind of policy. I can tell you from experience just about what would happen if every farmer produced the maximum amount of crops from all the acreage he could cultivate. First of all, it would mean reckless devastation of the soil followed by flood and drought and dust storms and, incidentally, by an increase in migrancy from the farm. It would mean farm prices at least as low as those we had in 1932--and perhaps lower because of the loss of our foreign markets for farm products in recent years. It would mean that our basic crops would be so cheap that it wouldn't pay the farmer to raise them. In short, it would bankrupt all agriculture." R. M. Evans, Administrator, Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

State Committeemen Attend Meetings

State Committeemen from three States of the East Central Region recently attended meetings in other regions, thereby familiarizing themselves with the problems of farmers in other sections of the country and affording committeemen in the other sections opportunity to better understand our problems.

John D. Craddock of the Kentucky State Committee participated in an Ohio meeting of AAA committeemen from throughout the tobacco belt of that State.

Tom Scott, North Carolina State Committee Chairman, attended a series of meetings in North Dakota. The Dakota meetings were held for the purpose of discussing the 1941 program. Mr. Scott, himself a tobacco grower, told North Dakota farmers that the tobacco grower has many of the same problems the wheat grower has and that both have been greatly benefited by programs under the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

A. A. Deakins, Tennessee State Committee Chairman, attended the Northeast Regional Meeting in New York City.

Regional and National Crop Insurance Meetings

Regional meetings were recently held in Washington, D. C., and Louisville, Kentucky, for the purpose of discussing the crop insurance program with State and county committees and fieldmen in the East Central Region. During these discussions it was emphasized that committeemen themselves must fully understand the importance of crop insurance before they can be successful in selling it to other farmers.

Representatives from 33 States attended the national conference in Washington, D. C., beginning November 23, at which many recommendations of committees were adopted, including the following items: No change in closing dates; further research work concerning crop insurance for tobacco, citrus fruit and other farm commodities; and that no long-term contract be submitted in 1942.

Something Not To Be Sneezed At

It may seem strange, but according to a conclusion drawn by Dr. Roger P. Wodehouse, Yonkers, N. Y., in a paper read before a meeting of the Southern Medical Association at Louisville, Kentucky, recently, the use of medicines and treatments to cure hay fever is "putting the cart before the horse." In his opinion, the cause should be removed first.

"Hay fever wouldn't exist without the irritating presence of pollen grains from plants...that...would not flourish unless man had denuded the soil and made it possible for them to grow so abundantly."

Farmers in the Triple-A program have known that crop rotation, cover crops, and conservation practices stop erosion and build soil fertility, with many resultant benefits. It probably will be news to some, however, to know that the Triple-A program may also provide a preventive for hay fever.

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

West Virginia's State Committee Chairman

(No. 2 in a series of personal sketches of State AAA Chairmen)

Hu S. Vandervort, chairman of the West Virginia Committee, was born and reared on a farm near Morgantown in Monongalia County and has been engaged in some phase of farming or farm enterprise all his life. Mr. Vandervort has a B.S. degree in agriculture from West Virginia University.

In 1912 he accepted a position with the Agricultural Extension Service of West Virginia and during the next 12 years he held various jobs, including county agent, district agent, assistant state agent, and assistant director.

In 1924 he became general manager of a cooperative milk distributing organization known as the Sanitary Milk and Ice Cream Company. Mr. Vandervort owns and operates a farm near Morgantown on which the principal crops produced are apples and strawberries.

He has been chairman of the West Virginia Farm Bureau Legislative Committee for two years.

Referendum Results

Growers of cotton and Burley, fire-cured and dark air-cured tobacco followed the lead of flue-cured growers in approving marketing quotas. Another demonstration of what Administrator Evans meant when he said, "the AAA is a perfect expression of our democracy at work for the people." In these referendums, growers used the democratic processes made available by the AAA Farm Program. Already it is possible to say that these were successful demonstrations; successful not because of the decision of growers to use 1-year or 3-year quotas, but because their decision was based on full information concerning the situation. Education--or rather, accurate information--goes hand in hand with democracy.

The table below shows the unofficial summary of ballots cast.

		3-year quotas		1-year quota	
	Total	"Yes"	Percentage	"Yes"	Against
Tobacco					
Burley	138,018	106,064	76.8	4,210	27,744
Fire-cured	20,802	17,990	86.5	429	2,383
Dark air-cured	10,298	8,833	85.8	227	1,238

Cotton

State	Total	Yes	Percentage	Against
Kentucky	1,176	1,141	97.0	35
North Carolina	59,162	55,036	93.0	4,126
Tennessee	36,315	34,260	94.3	2,055
Virginia	3,403	3,312	97.3	91
All other States	744,800	689,305	92.7	55,495
United States	844,856	783,054	92.7	61,802

FACTS for COMMITTEEMEN

Payment and Deduction Rates for 1941 Program

The recently announced rates of payment for 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program place more emphasis on soil conservation by making available a greater share of the funds to farmers who carry out approved soil building practices. The following rate tables have been prepared for use as supplemental pages to the Triple-A Notebook.

10a - Program

1941 Payment rates for special and
total soil-depleting crops

Crop	Rates
Cotton	1.37¢ lb.
Tobacco	
Flue-cured	0.8¢ lb.
Burley	0.8¢ lb.
Fire-cured	1.5¢ lb.
Dark air-cured	1.0¢ lb.
Virginia sun-cured	0.8¢ lb.
Wheat (on allotment farms)	8¢ bu.
Corn (on allotment farms)	9¢ bu.
Peanuts (in designated counties)	\$2.25 ton
Potatoes (in potato coun- ties)	2.3¢ bu.
Commercial vegetables	\$1.30 acre

Deduction rates on excess acreage:

Cotton	4¢ lb.
Tobacco	8¢ lb.
Wheat	50¢ bu.
Corn	50¢ bu.
Peanuts	\$1.50 100 lb.
Potatoes	30¢ bu.
Commercial vegetables, \$20 per acre	
*Total soil-depleting acreages	\$5.00 per acre

*Not applicable in North Carolina.

*Applicable in Tennessee only on de-
pleting acreages in excess of 80%
of crop land or 30 acres.

10b - Program

1941 Payment rates with respect to
soil-building practices

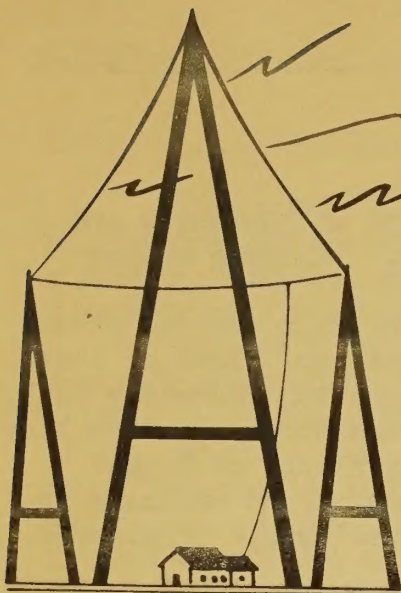
Items	Rates
*Cropland in excess of special allotments excluding commercial vegetables	70¢ acre
Commercial orchards	\$1.80 acre
Eligible noncrop pasture, in excess of one-half of cropland	25¢ acre

Deduction rates with respect
to soil-building practices

\$1.50 for each unit by which
soil-building goal is not met.

The soil-building goal is 1 unit
of soil-building practices for
each \$1.50 of the soil-building
payment computed for that farm.

*In North Carolina . . . 60¢ acre



FLASHES

FACTS FOR Committeemen

Issued by EAST CENTRAL DIVISION
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
U. S. D. A. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUME I

December 1940

No. 12

Dear Committeemen:

At this season, it is customary to look back over accomplishments of the past year and to weigh the possibilities of the future.

As for 1940, the committeemen of the East Central Region can point to definite progress in the operation and development of the farm program. We find a larger participation, a greater use of the program to lessen economic shocks caused by the War, and a further increase in conservation practices. These developments are reflected in available statistics. There are other gains, less tangible, but equally important; gains in the achievement of a better informed and a more unified farm population.

Conscious of the difficulties ahead, farmers can face 1941 with courage and confidence because of the soundness of American foundations. Upon these foundations agriculture has erected bulwarks through conservation, through marketing quotas, through farm leadership, and through farm unity. In meeting the problems of 1941, we should keep in mind that it is the day-by-day effort which makes up the whole accomplishment. Let us look to the immediate tasks, realizing that if they are well done, the major long-range job will also be well done.

To all of you, a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

W. G. Finn
Director, East Central Division

Movies and Film Strips Available

Many counties are effectively using film strips at community and farmer-businessmen meetings during the winter months. In some states colored slides made locally are used.

A number of film strips and movie films dealing with various phases of the farm program are available to counties for meetings. Some of these are: "Your National AAA Program," "Conserving and Improving Tennessee Soil," "Pioneering a Permanent Country," "Wheat Loans and Farm Storage," "Frontiers of Grass," "More Abundant Wildlife," and "America Has Plenty of Food."

The list of movies available in either the 16mm. or 35 mm. size includes "Farm and City Forward Together," "Wise Land Use Pays," "Balanced Plenty," and "Men Who Grow Wheat."

Film strips and movie films may be obtained by applying to the State AAA office.

Get Acquainted with your Editor

There is an opportunity in every county for farmer-committeemen to become better acquainted with local newspaper editors. The editors will appreciate news tips that you take in to them. Among the items which the editor might welcome as news are unusual accomplishments under the program, a farmer's comments on the value of cover crops or his experience with the use of lime and phosphate in building pastures. The tips don't always have to be exclusively Triple-A; they may include other interesting news about your community. As you get to know your editor better, you'll find his interest in the welfare of agriculture increasing. You'll find him asking questions about the Triple-A program and showing a new desire to write about it. We who work with the program all the time sometimes forget that a lot of people aren't completely familiar with its values. Sometimes our friends don't seem vitally interested in the program, when the truth is nobody has taken time to tell them about it.

Cotton Hearings

Two cotton hearings are being held in the East Central Region. At these meetings the cotton situation is discussed and recommendations made for future action. State committeemen, county committeemen from cotton counties, Governors, Representatives, Senators, and leaders from the Extension Service, farm organizations, business, and the trade are invited to attend. A hearing was held at Jackson, Tennessee, on December 19 for Kentucky and Tennessee. The second hearing will be held at Charlotte, North Carolina, on January 10 for Virginia and North Carolina.

Reminder

All orders for limestone and phosphate should be placed early enough to insure their delivery in time to be used prior to the close of the program year and so as to afford, insofar as possible, maximum benefits to the land for 1941.

Virginia's State Committee Chairman

John East, of Churchville, Augusta County, Virginia, has served as chairman of the State AAA committee since the spring of 1940, and as a member since the committee's organization in 1936. Previously, he was a member of his county committee during the corn-hog and wheat programs.

Born on a 580-acre farm which he now operates, Mr. East has been actively engaged in farming for the past 22 years. His principal farm enterprises are cattle, sheep, wheat, corn, and apples. He is secretary of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, president of the United Wool Growers Cooperative Association, and president of the Virginia Livestock Association. At the 1940 Institute of Rural Affairs he was one of four Virginia farmers who received certificates of merit awarded by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute for outstanding service to agriculture.

Mr. East says, "In my opinion, the AAA offers farmers in Virginia and other States the greatest opportunity they have ever had to plan together the business of farming so as to build up and maintain the fertility of the land at minimum cost, to get a fair share of the national income, to maintain a better standard of living, and to leave the land for our descendants in a better condition than when we assumed custody of it."

Neighbors on Main Street

"Good morning, Farm and Home friends—and neighbors on Main Street." This is the introduction for radio broadcasts which is often used by one who is interested in the success of the AAA. The greeting recognizes that the interests of farmers and businessmen are interrelated. Whether the interests be of agriculture and business, agriculture and labor, agriculture and industry, agriculture and finance, or agriculture and education, the relationship is one of the Siamese-twin variety; either is affected by what happens to the other.

The importance of this relationship has been emphasized through farmer-businessmen meetings. These meetings are now being planned throughout the region for the winter months. The national emergency, in which every phase of the Nation's activity plays its part, is knitting more closely than over the interests of farmers and business. The increased emphasis on farmer-businessmen meetings this winter should be of mutual benefit and profit.

Farm Program Protects American Agriculture

"If it were not for the Government loans and purchases and other programs administered by the Department of Agriculture, the war today would have our farmers in much more serious straits than they are. The broad protection afforded American agriculture by the farm program has served to ward off temporarily the economic blows resulting from the war abroad.... The loss of the continental European markets, and the curtailment of the exports to the United Kingdom have not yet been reflected in the income of farmers." (Excerpt from an address by J. B. Hutson at Chicago, Illinois, December 3, 1940).

PROTECT YOUR SOIL-BUILDING INVESTMENT



This year thousands of acres of cropland which farmers have built up by use of lime and phosphate, by green-manuring, and other practices is being protected from the "twin terrors"--erosion and leaching-- which threaten the fertility of every farm in the Nation.

Loss of soil fertility has been checked by the seeding of such crops as crimson clover, vetch, Austrian winter peas, rye, barley, and ryegrass. Farmers who seeded these winter cover crops on their corn, tobacco, cotton, and other row cropland last fall can watch the return of the winter rainy season with a far greater peace of mind than they have had in the past--for they have protected their soil-building investment.